



Flames football defeats Presbyterian, 47-28 in final home game of season. B1



Liberty and UVA cadets team up to hold Veterans Day vigil and ceremony. B8



A student's perspective on controversy surrounding Papa John's pizza. A4

# Liberty Champion

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*honor and duty*



JACOB BUWALDA | LIBERTY CHAMPION

FREEDOM – Liberty honored military veterans at the football game against Presbyterian College Saturday, Nov. 11.

## VIRGINIA STAYS BLUE

### Dems sweep key positions

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It is blue skies for Virginia as the Democratic party swept the state claiming the governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general seats, as well as a large handful of local delegates positions in the 2017 statewide elections held Nov. 7.

Former Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam blew past the competition by winning nearly 54 percent of the vote, beating Republican candidate Ed Gillespie by over 200,000 votes.

The other seats failed to be tight elections as well, with Justin Fairfax defeating Jill Vogel for the lieutenant governor's seat by over 140,000 votes and Mark Herring retaining the attorney general position against John Adams by more than 175,000 votes.

"The turnout (for the Democrats) was much better this year," Lynchburg Democrats chair Katie Cypert said. "I think people realized after the 2016 race that every election counts."

Many Republicans were gravely disappointed with the magnitude of Gillespie's

loss. Many have blamed the outcome on Gillespie shying away from President Donald Trump's endorsement of him, including Trump himself.

"Ed Gillespie worked hard but did not embrace me or what I stand for," Trump tweeted Nov. 7. "Don't forget, Republicans won 4 out of 4 House seats, and with the economy doing record numbers, we will continue to win, even bigger than before!"

President of College Republicans at Liberty John Wood said the Republican candidates were marked for failure from the start because of the reputation the party holds due to the divisiveness of Trump's politics.

"It was over before it started because Democrats all over the place, even in local offices, were winning," Wood said. "If you had an 'R' next to your name in this election, you had a big target on your back."

President of College Libertarians Jorge Reyes said the results of the election were an act against Trump.

See ELECTION, A2

## Praising overseas

### LU Praise invited to China for festival

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Liberty University's gospel concert choir, LU Praise, was invited by the Chinese government to sing in the 2017 Hainan (21st-Century Maritime Silk Road) Choir Festival Nov. 18–24 in Hainan Island, China.

The 30-member choir will leave the evening of Tuesday, Nov. 14 from Charlotte Douglas International Airport and return to campus Monday, Nov. 27 following both the choir festival in China and a performance at Capo Beach Church Sunday, Nov. 26, in Capistrano Beach, California.

Dr. Vernon Whaley, director of LU Praise and dean of the School of Music, Dr. Ronald Hawkins, provost



PHOTO PROVIDED

WORSHIP – LU Praise will be traveling Nov. 14–27.

and chief academic officer of Liberty University, and their wives will travel with the choir as sponsors for the trip. Whaley will also serve as an adjudicator for the competition.

"(The Chinese government) approached the American Choral Directors Association ... and asked them if they would select three

choirs from America that would represent the ACDA and demonstrate the different kinds of choir in America," Whaley said. "They ... selected the Wheaton Men's (Glee Club), which is a really fine men's group, the Houston Children's (Chorus) and LU Praise."

See CHINA, A8

## Future fashion

### Liberty student awarded grant for design

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Liberty University student Luis Quijano was recently awarded a \$1,500 grant from the Center for Research & Scholarship Research-Intensive Awards to further his research with bacterial cellulose as a means of growing one's own clothing.

Darren Wu, the associate director of the Center for Research & Scholarship said it was an easy decision to provide financial support to Quijano to help him with his research interests.

"Luis' research project is creative, novel, cross-disciplinary and environmentally responsible," Wu said in an email. "It has the potential of advancing

the university's reputation both nationally and internationally."

With a major in fashion and a double minor in business and Chinese, Quijano has high hopes for his research in the coming years.

"By giving me the \$1,500 grant, they're allowing

me to be one step closer to making my dream of using bacterial cellulose more of a reality within the commercial fashion industry," Quijano said.

See QUIJANO, A7



JESSIE ROGERS | LIBERTY CHAMPION

SCHOLARSHIP – Luis Quijano received a \$1,500 grant.

### WHAT'S NEWS @ LIBERTY

The School of Aeronautics NIFA Flight Team defended its title as the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's Region X Champion for the 13th year in a row **Nov. 1-4** at the 2017 Region X SAFECON.

Marine Corporal Gary Witt was awarded the George Rogers Champion of Freedom Award at the Military Appreciation Halftime Show **Nov. 11** during Liberty's final home game against Presbyterian College.

Four of Liberty's Moot Court teams qualified for the American Moot Court Association National Tournament **Jan. 19-20**, 2018, in Dallas, Texas, after competing at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Tournament.

After three tournaments and 24 wins, Liberty's Quiz Bowl team completed its fall season 6-4 **Nov. 4** at Virginia Tech's AFC Fall Tournament. This season, the team beat competitors such as Princeton.

Public Health student and former Nigerian medical practitioner Olushola Ogunleye received the 2017 Trong D. Nguyen Memorial Award at the American Public Health Association Conference **Nov. 4-8**.

### INSIDE THE CHAMPION

#### News

Local bands organize benefit concert to preserve Lynchburg skatepark. **A3**

#### Opinion

Advice on how to handle uncomfortable family situations during Thanksgiving. **A5**

#### Sports

Men's basketball defeats Clarks Summit 87-42 in season opener. **B1**

#### Feature

Fulbright program provides grants and international opportunities for students. **B7**

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