



Women's Basketball Champions B1



Nicole Miller & Naoto Barrett B8



Pro/con on arming teachers A5

# Liberty Champion

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 17

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

LIBERTYCHAMPION.COM | TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018 | LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

## Serving at Rockport

LU Send Now deploys a team of students back to Texas over spring break

Ryan Klinker  
rmklinker@liberty.edu

Over the course of Liberty University's spring break, LU Send Now has a team prepared that will be moving their area of focus from academia to rebuilding the damaged homes of Rockport, Texas, and find any and all ways to serve the people of the area. The team of 21 is preparing to

serve alongside Samaritan's Purse in a community still recovering from 2017's Hurricane Harvey. This will be the first time that LU Send Now has partnered with Samaritan's Purse for a rebuilding project, which will likely allow the team more time to form relationships and bonds with the homeowners they will be serving.

One of the leaders for the team, LU Shepherd Dillon Segur, cited

the partnership with Samaritan's Purse and the time afforded by spring break as being incentives for the trip.

"I wanted to go because this is the first time that LU Send Now is partnering with Samaritan's Purse to do a rebuild, and I thought it was a good way to gain experience and learn about a new form of disaster relief," Segur said. "Spring break is a great time to do missions/ser-

vice because, as a student, you are pulled in so many directions that the only time you can serve is during breaks."

Team member Noah Pipes recognizes that this spring break will be different from every other year, and he looks forward to the opportunity to come to the aid of those that cannot enjoy this season.

"I am most looking forward to doing something for someone else

during a holiday (that) is heavily focused on oneself," Pipes said. "Every other spring break, I would have gone on vacation or enjoyed quality time with my girlfriend, friends and family, but I felt God strongly call me to this trip to do something not for myself, but for someone who is in dire need."

See **SEND NOW**, A8

*flying high*



MAX LOTH | LIBERTY CHAMPION

AWARDING EXCELLENCE – Liberty's School of Aeronautics received the prestigious Loening Trophy in 2017 and was honored at the Virginia General Assembly in February.

## Landing on the Loening

School of Aeronautics recognized at Virginia General Assembly

Bethany Kocik  
bkocik@liberty.edu

After being in existence for only 16 years, the Liberty University School of Aeronautics has achieved one of the highest honors in collegiate aviation, winning the Loening Trophy in May 2017 after

competing at the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's SAFECON competition in May 2017.

The Virginia General Assembly recognized the School of Aeronautics' achievement Tuesday, Feb. 27 at the Virginia State Capitol.

According to the NIFA

website, the Loening Trophy was created in 1929 by Dr. Grover Loening after he saw a need for an award that recognized exceptional collegiate aviation programs.

"We first noticed we had a shot at winning the trophy when we pulled up the criteria and noticed

that this is what we do every day," Russell Page, co-captain of the NIFA Flight Team of the Liberty University School of Aeronautics, said.

The criteria include academic emphasis, community involvement, aviation skills and their advancement, the program

having a comprehensive safety plan, and professionalism, according to the NIFA website. In addition, the NIFA website said these are combined with a proactive effort to improve the future of aviation.

See **AVIATION**, A7



Through the **#FlamesGive-Back initiative**, Liberty University NCAA Division I athletes have been giving back to Lynchburg by partnering with local schools and nonprofits. Recently, student-athletes read to children at Yellow Branch Elementary School.

Liberty University School of Law's moot court team will be competing in the **National Finals of the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition** in Washington, D.C. April 5-7.

Five Liberty University students were honored with the **Provost's Award for Research Excellence**, which includes grants ranging from \$2,500-\$4,000 on March 5. Recipients must complete their research over the summer and have the option to present their research at the university's annual Research Week.

Liberty University alumnus Brandon Fleming founded the **Harvard Debate Council Diversity Project** in 2017 to give African-American high schoolers of Atlanta the opportunity to attend a summer program at Harvard University.

## Food & thought

Eating disorder support for students

Jack Panyard  
jepanyard@liberty.edu

Liberty University is focused on eating disorders, the mental illness with the highest mortality rate, affecting at least 30 million people of all ages and genders, with the school being no exception.

Currently, the Student Counseling Services at Liberty provides counseling and support services for all different mental illnesses and looks to get stu-

dents connected with help, whether that be on or off campus.

"Everybody who comes to us with eating disorders will meet up with someone and will get care," Executive Director of Student Counseling Services Mike Kunzinger said. "They will be plugged in either with the eating disorder group, will be plugged in with someone for individual counseling, here or off campus. Usually it's a long-term process."

See **EATING DISORDER**, A6



PHOTO PROVIDED

SUPPORT – Student Counseling offers a Making Peace with Food group.

## House rules

SGA revises delegate districts

Kyra Thompson  
kthompson36@liberty.edu

Liberty University's Student Government Association passed an amendment last semester, changing the way delegates represent the student body by separating the campus into districts.

Officially known as the Bean-Porter Rules, the amendment evenly separates the student body, including residential and commuter students, into 58 sections referred to as districts that

have a certain number of delegates to represent them based on how many students are in each district.

One of the creators, David Bean, who used to be a delegate and is now a senator, joked about coincidentally replicating the style of government that was portrayed in the dystopian novel series "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins but said the real goal was to create a more accurate way to represent all of the student body.

"We wanted the delegates to have a better idea of who to represent, but mainly to make sure every demographic on campus is represented," Bean said.

Both Bean and Porter said they were disappointed with the way that representation of the student body had been pushed to the side in the House of Delegates. They felt it had become an after-thought in the way the delegate position was presented.

See **SGA**, A2



PHOTO PROVIDED

LEADERSHIP – Caleb Fitzpatrick is the Speaker of the House for SGA.

### INSIDE THE CHAMPION

#### News

Popular coffee chain Joe Bean's opens a new location in Bedford County. A3

#### Opinion

A student's opinion on the state of maternity leave in the United States. A4

#### Sports

Mens hockey head coach Kirk Handy reached his 400-win milestone. B3

#### Feature

There are a variety of "secret" club sports like paintball and synchronized skating. B6

■ News	A1
■ Opinion	A4
■ Sports	B1
■ Feature	B5