David Safran ’12 Takes 1st Place in National Business Competition

We are very excited to share that 2012 graduate David Safran was awarded first place in his competition category on Wednesday, June 27 at the Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas. He placed first in the “Sales Presentation” category, competing against students from schools such as Rutgers, Florida International, and Valparaiso University.

One of Safran’s Phi Beta Lambda advisors, former business faculty member Nancy Hammersley, attended the national competition in support of her former student. “David is a joy to work with,” Hammersley said after Safran’s win. “He is mature, self-reliant, very confident, and just extremely well prepared – he understands what it takes to succeed.”

After graduating from Raleigh’s Broughton High School, Safran trained in car repair and worked as a Land Rover technician, delving into medical sales a few years later. A church mission trip to the South American country of Guyana inspired Safran to consider a change in his life, and he decided to attend college to earn a business degree. Safran enrolled at Louisburg College and participated in our nationally recognized Learning Partners Program, an initiative that provides support to students with learning disabilities.

“Learning Partners was the key to my success in earning a college degree,” Safran said. “Preparing you for the competitive real world is what college is supposed to do, and it’s what Louisburg did for me.”

Safran, who served as the president of Louisburg College’s Phi Beta Lambda chapter as well the honor society Phi Theta Kappa, graduated summa cum laude this past May. The son of Perry and Susan Safran of Raleigh, he will begin pursuing a degree in economics this fall at North Carolina State University.

Future Business Leaders of America – Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL) is the largest and oldest student organization in the world, with a mission of preparing students for a future in business-related fields through innovative leadership and career development. To learn more about Louisburg College’s chapter, contact PBL advisor Patrice Nealon at pnealon@louisburg.edu.

Louisburg College Celebrates 225th Anniversary at State Legislature

In celebration of a journey that spans four centuries (1787-2012), Louisburg College held a special event in the floor lobby of the North Carolina State Legislature on Tuesday, June 19 from 10 am until 3 pm. President Mark La Branche and members of the College’s staff, Board of Trustees, and Golden Anniversary Council were present to hand out cake and punch and to share the story of Louisburg College.

Visitors enjoyed viewing displays of historical photos from the archives collection, College publications, and admissions materials. At 2:00 pm, Speaker of the House Thom Tillis recognized the College’s 255th anniversary in his introductory remarks to the assembly.

The North Carolina House of Representatives passed an official resolution commemorating Louisburg’s 225th Anniversary; you can view the resolution online at http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2011/Bills/House/PDF/H1232v2.pdf.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to all the sponsors and supporters of this resolution (including primary sponsors Representatives Bradley & Bryant), for bestowing this honor on our institution.

Celebrating 225 Years of Building Strong Foundations for Great Futures
Sweet Event: Raleigh-Area Alumni Gathering

Over sixty Raleigh-area alumni and friends of the College joined President La Branche to celebrate Louisburg's 225th birthday at the North Hills Club on Saturday, June 23rd. Alumni at the event spanned fifty-eight years of the College's history, with graduates as early as 1949 and as recent as 2007 in attendance.

Bill Shelton ’69 sponsored the event held at the Club’s outdoor pavilion, and marvelous desserts were provided by Michael Pollard ’76, the owner of Cheesecakes Plus.

Center: President Mark La Branche welcomes local alums and shares the latest College news with them.

Louisburg College Welcomes New Class of Trustees

Louisburg College is pleased to announce three new appointments to the College’s Board of Trustees:

Louisburg resident Dr. Bobbie Richardson (left) brings with her a wealth of experience as an educator and school administrator. Currently, she is the School Administrator for Licensure, Personnel, & Curriculum for the North Carolina Department of Corrections. Dr. Richardson also serves as the Social Action Commissioner for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., sits on the Franklin County School Board, and is a Sunday school teacher and trustee of Gillfield Missionary Baptist Church.

Also hailing from Louisburg, Ms. Lynda C. Lumpkin (right) is a self-proclaimed “Louisburg College enthusiast,” having served in the past as the College’s Vice President for Institutional Advancement as well as spokesperson for the Learning Partners Program; she and her husband, Mr. James “Parker” Lumpkin, are longtime supporters of the College. The Community Gallery in the Seby B. Jones Performing Arts Center is named in honor and memory of Edith Lumpkin, Mr. Lumpkin’s mother and a former trustee of the College.

Mr. Brian Wilder (left) of Raleigh, NC, graduated from Louisburg College in 1994 prior to attending North Carolina State University. While at Louisburg, Mr. Wilder played basketball under Coach Enid Drake, and credits much of his success to the lessons he learned under Coach Drake’s tutelage. Mr. Wilder recently made a major gift commitment to the Roger G. Taylor Athletic Center renovations in honor of Coach Drake. He is the Founder and Executive Vice President of Premiere Global Sports Travel.

The College is also pleased to name current trustees Mr. Michael Boddie as the new Chairman of the Board, and Mr. Ely J. Perry, III as the new Vice Chairman. Ms. Lucy T. Allen will remain in her position as Secretary of the Board.
Women’s Softball
Let’s hear it for the softball team -- they’ve been named as a 2011-2012 NJCAA All-Academic Team! To receive this honor, teams must achieve an overall team GPA above 3.0. Way to go, Lady ‘Canes!

Our Student Athletes Shine In the Classroom!
The NJCAA national office in Colorado Springs, CO has announced their 2011-2012 Academic Student Athlete Award Winners, and five Hurricane student-athletes picked up nods for their work in the classroom.

The Lady Canes softball team picked up four of the awards. Theresa Brown (High Point, NC) and Megan Thompson (Newport News, VA) earned Exemplary Academic Achievement Awards as their final GPA was between 3.60-3.79. Hitting the next mark, Jamie Hockaday (Butner, NC) and Lauren Saller (Mechanicsville, VA) were honored with Superior Academic Achievement Awards as their GPA’s landed in the 3.80-3.99 range.

Hurricane volleyball player Marissa Lanier (La Grange, NC) was the final academic award winner, picking up a Superior Academic Achievement nod for her efforts off the court.

Men’s Soccer Names New Coach
We extend a warm welcome to our new Head Men’s Soccer Coach, Cristian Neagu (pictured below). A native of Romania, Cristian came to the United States in 2000 to play collegiate soccer. As a player, he earned NJCAA All-American honors at Bryant & Stratton College (Syracuse, New York), where he led the Bobcats to a national championship before heading to Virginia Commonwealth University, where he led the Rams to a pair of Colonial League titles.

During his five-year professional playing career, Cristian embarked on a coaching journey that led to appearances on the staff at both Bryant & Stratton College and Virginia Commonwealth University. Cristian also brings a wealth of experience at the professional and club level, having held numerous coaching and administrative positions in Virginia and the District of Columbia. Cristian currently holds a USSF “A” license and is pursuing his UEFA “A” license.

Making Our Campus Sparkle: Summer Renovations
If you’ve been on campus this summer, you’ve probably noticed various construction and landscaping projects underway. Next month, we’ll introduce a new section of the College website that will showcase “before-and-afters” and other photos following the progress. Stay tuned!
May 31, 2012 marked the closure of Sharon Moore’s 42-year career at Louisburg College, who has retired from her roles as Business Office Manager and Title III Director.

Born and raised in Louisburg, Ms. Moore (pictured seated) had originally intended to join the work force straight out of high school, but her mother convinced her to enroll at Louisburg. Ms. Moore’s interest in business persisted, and after graduating from Louisburg College, she went on to earn a degree in Business Administration and Accounting from Barton College. From work study student to administrative assistant to many other roles since, Ms. Moore’s professional commitment to the College has left a legacy few can match.

A retirement party was held in her honor on May 30th in the Main parlor. Business Office staff members serenaded Moore (pictured) with “You Picked a Fine Time to Leave Us, Sharon Moore” (to the tune of the famous Kenny Rogers song about Lucille). Louisburg College President Dr. Mark La Branche later presented her with an inscribed print of the Main Building.

“Sharon has been a very important part of the financial team at Louisburg College,” says Belinda Faulkner, Vice President for Finance. “She has served in many capacities over her 41-year career, always performing at an exemplary level. In addition to missing her valuable contribution to our team’s work, we will most certainly miss her smile and gracious Southern charm.”

Please join us in thanking Ms. Moore for her many years of dedicated service and in wishing her a very happy retirement!
Love Is in the Air at Louisburg!

On May 19th, the College hosted the wedding of two former student-athletes. Samantha Beavers ’03, a former softball player and honor student, married Steve Parrish ’02, a former baseball player. As the story goes, the couple literally bumped into each other in front of the cafeteria the first day they arrived on campus as freshmen. Stevie said to Sam, “One day you will be my wife!” The wedding party included bridesmaids Alayna Thomas ’02, Cat Smith Young ’02, Lindsay Nemenz ’03, Toni Champ ’03, Laura Barnes ’02, Amanda Hart, Sarah Bowen, and Matron of Honor Elaine Beavers-Fowler; flower girls Peyton Parrish and Riley Hart; ring bearer Austin Parrish; and best man Randy Parrish.

The couple would like to thank Sheilah Cotten, former softball coach and mentor; Jina Stamey, a 1999 graduate and former staff member; Shane Benjamin, College Chaplain, for officiating the ceremony; and Fonda Porter, Director of Counseling Services, who served as the photographer. Special thanks also go to Robert Poole, Auditorium Director, who scheduled the venue and provided chairs; the College’s housekeeping staff; Steve Sparks, Head of Maintenance, and the grounds crew for the immaculate condition of the grounds; Henry of “Flowers by Henry,” who provided the greenery; campus police; and Louisburg College, for approving the event with no charge for use of campus facilities.

On June 16th, Jeannene Pacheco (pictured left), Student Life Office Administrator, married Gus Pacheco on the campus of Berry College in Rome, Georgia. (Photo by Tessa Marie Wedding Photography)

Also on June 16th, Amy Scoggin Wolfe (pictured right), Director of Publications, married Kelly Wolfe at the Cotton Company in Wake Forest. (Photo by Leigh Ann Parrish Photography)

Summer School in Full Swing

It may be hot outside, but inside Taft it’s nice and cool as students in Emily Zank’s Intro to Literature class, including (front row, L-R) C. J. Phillips and Sara Christmas, listen attentively to the lesson. The College is offering 22 classes during this year’s summer school session.

We Want to Hear from YOU!

To have your news included in the next Mid.Week.Message, please email your submission by Monday at 5PM to: Melinda McKee, Director of Communications and Marketing, mmckee@louisburg.edu.