

Uncommon Learning

How a single book benefits an array of disciplines

Tale of the Tater

French-fried efficiency

Offering Refuge

Alumna at U.N. agency serves millions

VIRGINIA TECH

magazine

winter 2015-16



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Kelly Tallman Clements (French, international studies '88, M.U.A. '90) assumed the No. 2 position in the U.N. office responsible for serving and protecting the world's estimated 60 million displaced people.

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On the cover: Coach Frank Beamer was carried off the field following his last home game on Nov. 21, 2015. Photo by Jim Stroup.



Into the mist: Kathleen Alexander, an associate professor in the College of Natural Resources and Environment, researches the factors that influence the emergence and persistence of diseases at the human-wildlife interface. While traveling with Alexander in Africa in summer 2014, university photographer Jim Stroup captured this shot of Victoria Falls, a part of the Zambezi River on the Zambia-Zimbabwe border.

Winning the Right Way

by TIMOTHY D. SANDS

As others have said before, the athletics program is our “front porch,” a place where our community—students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends—gathers. It’s a place where we extend hospitality to our neighbors, friends, and rivals. It’s a place to win not merely with strength and skill, but with character.

This remarkable football season was a great example of how we come together and celebrate the Hokie Spirit through athletic activities. We registered our 12th consecutive Commonwealth Cup win; traveled to yet another bowl game; commemorated the retirement of our coach and friend, Frank Beamer; and celebrated the announcement of our new coach, Justin Fuente. I am excited that we will move forward with a coach who can build on Frank Beamer’s success.

I know you all join Athletic Director Whit Babcock and me as we take a moment to thank Coach Beamer for his dedicated service to Virginia Tech. It has been heartwarming to see his players and staff and the fans express their appreciation for his 29-year career at the university, and their affection for him as a person. He did more than just win: He demonstrated the value of character, honor, and the holistic development of the student-athlete.

To understand Coach Beamer’s impact on Virginia Tech and the Hokie Nation, one must appreciate the role of athletics at this university. The athletics program is a natural extension of the land-grant mission to prepare citizens for service and success in the commonwealth and beyond. Our student-athletes are winners in every sense. In the 2014-15 academic year, Virginia Tech student-athletes served more than 10,000 individuals through community involvement, and every one of the 22 varsity teams participated in outreach initiatives. Virginia Tech varsity athletes have an 88 percent graduation success rate. According to

our recent Gallup survey of alumni (see page 14), former student-athletes were more likely than their peers to be thriving in all five elements of well-being, especially in their senses of purpose and social connection.

While I have been honored to share the “front porch” with Frank Beamer during my first two football seasons as president, I envy those of you who have enjoyed his company for the past 29 seasons. I’m happy to say that while he may be retiring as a coach, he will never retire from the Hokie Nation. He is serving, and will always serve, as an example of what it means to be a Hokie, and we can honor his service and legacy by following his example in our own lives.

Thank you, Coach. Let’s go, Hokies! □

Timothy D. Sands is Virginia Tech’s 16th president.

LOGAN WALLACE

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letters to the editor



Cover concerns

Since when are open-toed, high-heeled sandals appropriate for a job interview? I would hope Hokie women have more sense than that. I know the photo was done in fun and that the interviewer has on Hokie feet, but I think you missed the mark on this one.

*Erin Racine
Monroe Township, New Jersey*

The article tells a compelling story of the hiring potential of Hokies ... but I was disappointed with the cover photo. As a professional woman with 34 years in the insurance industry, I have coached many women to always dress for their next job or position, which is challenging in these days

of “business casual.” The male is dressed professionally but the young lady in the center is all leg, with inappropriate shoes. When I first saw [the image], I thought she was hired for her looks, not that she was a Hokie.

I have three daughters, two in the workforce and one a sophomore at Virginia Tech. I remind them over and over to wear appropriate skirt lengths, shoes, tops, and jackets at work and for networking opportunities. We don’t want to be remembered for what we wore. We want to be remembered for our contributions. Please take care on the visual messages we are telegraphing to our young adults.

*Patricia Harris
Gladstone, New Jersey*

Editor’s note: *We intended for the cover image to be received in a lighthearted manner, and we staged it as such, without meaning to portray a real interview setting and the requisite formal attire. Even so, we acknowledge that the image has come across as off-target to some readers, and we certainly appreciate the feedback.*

Have something to say? Send us a note at vtmag@vt.edu.



Virginia Tech

in hand

Download Virginia Tech Magazine’s free app—available on the Mac App Store and Google Play—and experience every feature story, every class note, and all the news, along with video and audio extras.

Around the Drillfield

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LOGAN WALLACE

Smile for the camera: In her master's work, doctoral student Caitlin Colleary helped to unlock information in fossils millions of years old. To see a photo gallery on fossil colors, visit vtmag.vt.edu.

Gaze upon a prehistoric fossil or a dinosaur skeleton, and you're bound to imagine the animal alive—its musculature, movements, behavior, color, and more.

Caitlin Colleary may be able to help you do more than imagine.

Prior to beginning her doctoral study in vertebrate paleontology at Virginia Tech, Colleary, as part of her master's work at the University of Bristol, led a multi-university study that reveals how

pigment can be detected in mammal fossils, a finding that may end the guesswork in determining the colors of extinct species.

Marking the first time the colors of extinct mammals have been described through fossil analysis, the researchers discovered the reddish brown hue of two extinct bat species from fossils dating back about 50 million years. The techniques can be used to determine color from well-preserved animal fossils that are up to 300 million years old, researchers said.

"We have now studied the tissues from fish, frogs, and tadpoles; hair from mammals; feathers from birds; and ink from octopus and squids," said Colleary, the lead author of the study, which involved scientists from the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Ethiopia, and Denmark, and was published in a fall 2015 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. "They all preserve melanin, so it's safe to say that melanin is really all over the place in the fossil record. Now we can confidently fill in some of the original color patterns of these ancient animals."

The researchers determined that microscopic structures traditionally believed to be fossilized bacteria are in fact melanosomes—organelles within cells that contain melanin, the pigment that gives color to hair, feathers, skin, and eyes. Fossil melanosomes were first described in a fossil feather in 2008 by Jakob Vinther, a molecular paleobiologist at the University of Bristol and the senior author of the study.

Using an instrument called a time-of-flight secondary ion mass spectrometer, scientists identified the molecular makeup of the fossil melanosomes to compare with modern melanosomes. Researchers also replicated the conditions under which the fossils formed to identify the chemical alteration of melanin, subjecting modern feathers to high temperatures and pressures to better understand how chemical signatures changed during millions of years of burial.

"By incorporating these experiments, we were able to see how melanin chemically changes over millions of years, establishing a really exciting new way of unlocking information previously inaccessible in fossils," Colleary said.

Tech road-tests connected vehicles on interstate

Cars outfitted with automated- and connected-vehicle technology by Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) researchers traveled a 10-mile stretch of interstate in

Northern Virginia during testing conducted in mid-October 2015. The closed testing, which occurred during the regular midday reversal of the Interstate 395 express lanes, did not affect travel.



JIM STROUP

Charting the future

At two town hall forums in November and December, Executive Vice President and Provost Thanassis Rikakis (above) and President Timothy D. Sands gathered faculty input on a key aspect of the Beyond Boundaries visioning process—destination areas. In progress is a process to identify, define, and strengthen those areas—the signature elements of the university's curriculum and research—that will differentiate Virginia Tech as a leading university, advance scholarship, and attract students and faculty.

To learn more about the destination areas and the broader visioning process, visit beyondboundaries.vt.edu. For a video from the forums, visit vtmag.vt.edu.

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, U.S. Department of Transportation Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology Greg Winfree, Virginia Tech President Timothy D. Sands, and Virginia Secretary of Technology Karen Jackson were among officials who boarded sedans outfitted and "driven" by VTTI researchers.

The automated vehicle demonstrated lane-changing and braking responses to staged scenarios, including construction workers in the roadway, sudden traffic slowdowns, and passing emergency vehicles. The connected vehicle, which was equipped both with dedicated short-range communications known as DSRC

and with cellular technology, provided advanced alerts to drivers in similar scenarios using vehicle-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure communications.

"The growing use of automated and connected technologies is no longer a matter of if, but when," Warner said. "It is exciting that Virginia is positioned to be a leader in the development of this game-changing technology and the new jobs and investment that will result."

Ride along:

To ride along in a test vehicle, see the video at vtmag.vt.edu.



Kickoff: Justin Fuente and his family—his wife, Jenny, and their three daughters—were welcomed to campus by Director of Athletics Whit Babcock (left) and President Timothy D. Sands (right).

Fuente tapped to lead Hokie football

Justin Fuente, who led a remarkable resurgence for University of Memphis football, was introduced at a November 2015 press conference as Virginia Tech's head coach, succeeding Frank Beamer.

Regarded as one of the rising stars in college coaching, Fuente systematically brought the Memphis program back to respectability and postseason prominence, leading the Tigers to a 19-6 record in his final two campaigns. In 2014, the Tigers won their first conference championship since 1971.

"We are thrilled to welcome Justin, Jenny, and their three daughters into our Virginia Tech family," said Director of Athletics Whit Babcock. "Justin is a very impressive individual who also happens to be one of the brightest offensive minds in college football. He elevated Memphis to unprecedented heights. His

Virginia Tech Daily email

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JIM STROUP

recruiting philosophy is progressive and comprehensive. Coach Fuente has displayed tremendous talent in evaluating players and developing young men as they strive to reach their full potential. Simply put, Coach Fuente exudes all the qualities that Hokies hold near and dear."

Long story short

Scientists from the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute and clinicians from Carilion Clinic have discovered how to sensitize drug-resistant human glioblastoma cells to **chemotherapy**. Their findings were published in the *Cancer Research* journal.

Warren Bickel at the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute received \$2.4 million from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases to research and **improve maladaptive decision-making** that may contribute to Type 2 diabetes.

Mariana Falconier, clinical director of the Center for Family Services at the Northern Virginia Center, won a \$7.2 million U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant to promote healthy relationships and economic stability **among low-income couples**.

Quinn Thomas, assistant professor of forest dynamics and ecosystem modeling, is leading a \$2.6 million project funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to **predict the effectiveness** of land management practices to mitigate climate change.



One million Americans

suffer a slip, trip, or fall every year, costing employers an average of \$40,000 per incident. The incidents account for 20 percent of all job-related injuries and 15 percent of all accidental deaths—about 20,000 people annually, according to Triumvirate Environmental. The Industrial Biodynamics simulator helps trainees become more aware of the potential for falling, which can reduce accident rates.

Falling down on the job

by MASON ADAMS
photo by JIM STROUP

A slip-and-fall simulator developed at the Virginia Tech Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering is helping a variety of industries reduce a leading cause of workplace injuries.

Developed by a team that included Thurmon Lockhart, a former Virginia Tech associate professor now at Arizona State University, the simulator allows workers to receive kinesthetic training—learning by doing—to discover the right technique to best avoid falls.

In 2013, Lockhart joined three Virginia Tech alumni—Mike Abbott (mechanical engineering '96, M.S. '00), Jon Hager (M.S. mechanical engineering '89), and Christian James (mechanical engineering '04, M.S. '06)—to form Industrial Biodynamics, based at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, to manu-

facture the simulators. Operations began in 2014, and clients are already reporting 60 to 80 percent reductions in accident rates.

The company provides customized training to its clients. For example, the security team at Los Alamos National Lab practiced drawing firearms while standing on the simulator, which led to a change in how they wear the weapons. And workers for BP Husky Refinery practiced stepping over pipes and turning large valves.

Most people lean forward when they walk, but in slick conditions that tendency leads to imbalance. On the simulator, trainees can fall without fear of injury while practicing the proper technique: stand up straight, head held back, chin up, and eyes down. Take smaller steps, and land on a flat foot instead of on the heel.

After mastering the initial technique, trainees face additional challenges related to their specific work environments, such as walking up a ramp or turning a wheel.

How the physics of bursting bubbles may clean our food:

Scrubbing bubbles

by MASON ADAMS

The collapse of a bubble triggers a black-hole effect on surrounding particles, pulling them toward the disappearing bubble.

The study of this bubble phenomenon began in an unlikely place: with boat propellers. Engineers found that cavitation—the process of bubble formation in fluids—damaged propellers run at higher speeds. The discovery led to related research on how cavitation might be used for medical and industrial applications, such as breaking up kidney stones or clumps of dirt in wastewater.

For a study published in the *Physical Review Letters* journal, Sunghwan “Sunny” Jung, an associate professor of biomedical engineering and mechanics, used a high-speed video camera to explore the effects of cavitation on objects.

Jung envisions that the collapsing bubbles’ effect on particles may be used as a method for cleaning agricultural produce without chemical agents. He now is collaborating with researchers in the Department of Food Science and Technology to explore how small bubbles could draw microbes and dirt away from the skin of delicate produce, such as tomatoes and strawberries, without harming the crops.

Air time:

For a video on cavitation and food safety, visit vtmag.vt.edu.

Long story short

An NSF (National Science Foundation) initiative is assembling southern U.S. research universities into a partnership to develop a Big Data Regional Innovation Hub. Chang-Tien Lu, associate professor of computer science and associate direc-

tor of the Discovery Analytics Center, is leading the university’s broad-based efforts on the project, which will develop public-private partnerships to address the nation’s big-data challenges. The South Hub will serve 16 states and the District of Columbia.

Researchers at Virginia Tech’s Center for Modeling Immunity to Enteric Pathogens released a study in the journal *BioData Mining* evaluating a set of streamlined approaches for modeling the immune system—techniques that employ a facet of artificial intelligence

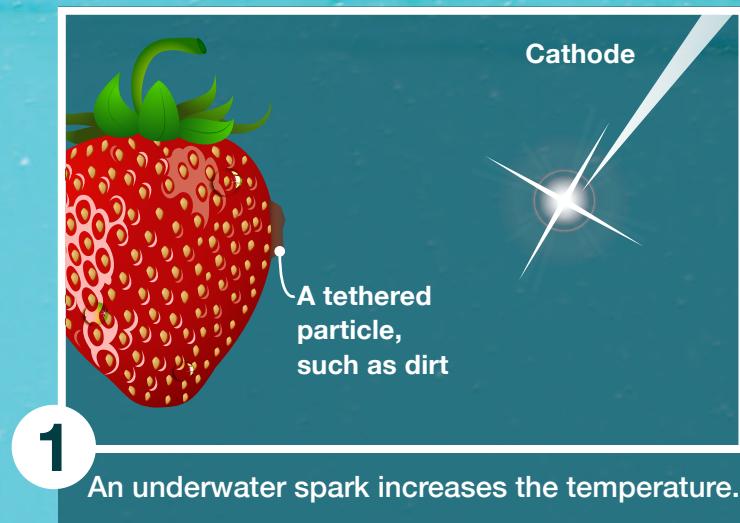
known as machine learning. Technology to predict how our bodies manage chronic diseases may accelerate the discovery of new treatments, identify leads for further study, and uncover hidden knowledge about how the immune system operates.

In mid-November, Virginia Tech hosted the 2015 conference for the **Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities**. Attendees explored future opportunities and challenges facing arts transdisciplinary practice, peer review, infrastructures, and partnerships.

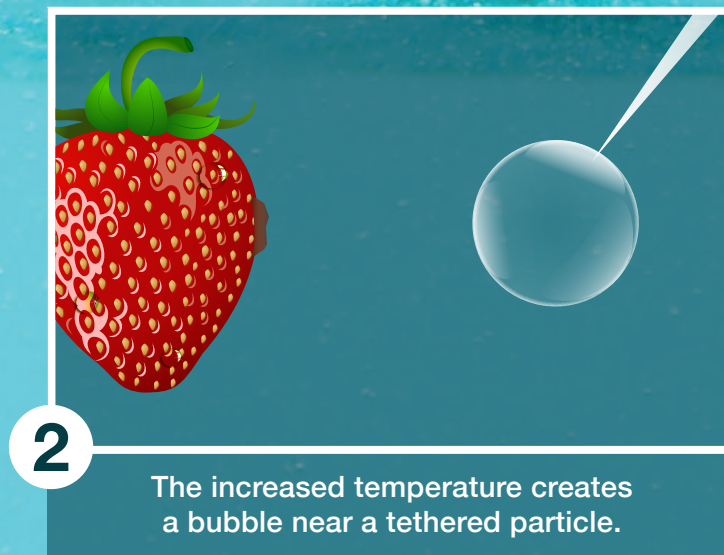
Joseph Wheeler in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies received the Virginia American Institute of Architects **Prize for Design Research and Scholarship** for the FutureHAUS. Professor Mehdi Setareh received an honorable mention.

The Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine received a \$10,000 Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co.-funded award through the Veterinary Care Foundation to treat pets whose owners could not otherwise afford treatment. The college treated a boxer

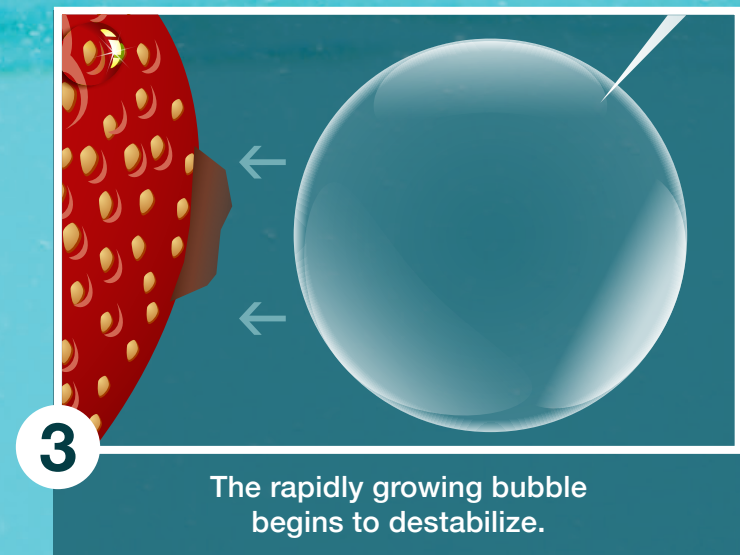
who had swallowed a wooden barbecue skewer and was nominated for Nationwide’s 2015 Hambone Award, a contest for the **most unusual pet-insurance claim**. The dog beat 11 other pets, including a tape-eating cat and a snake-fighting dachshund.



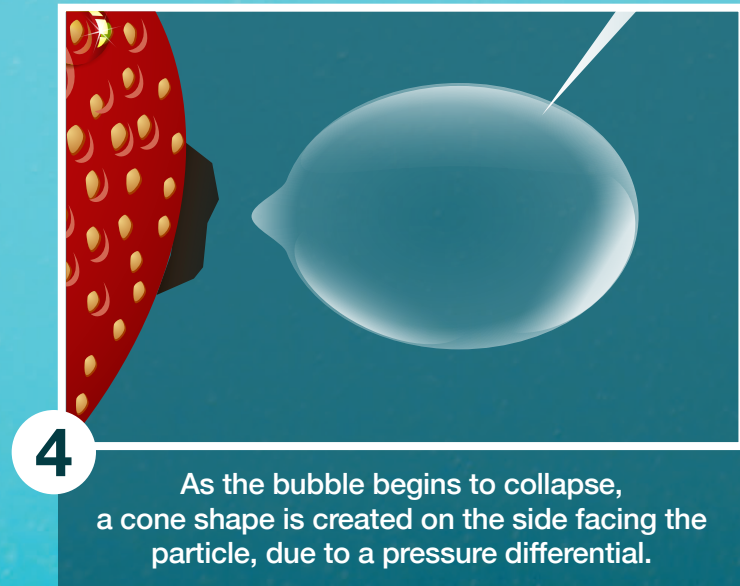
1 An underwater spark increases the temperature.



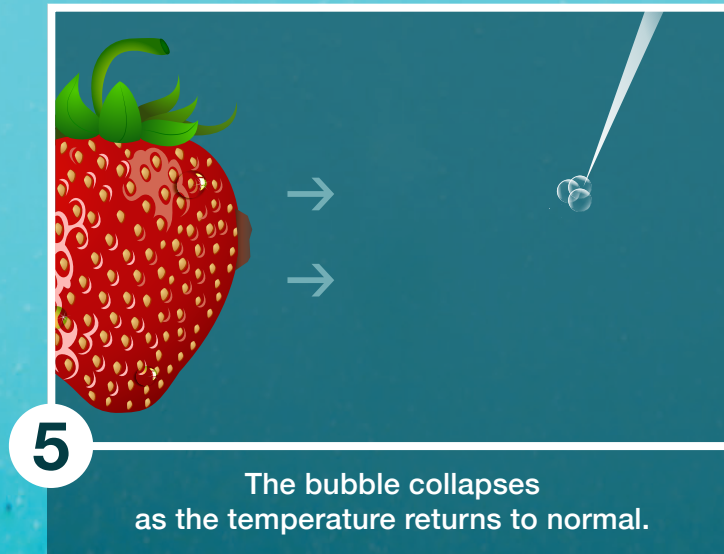
2 The increased temperature creates a bubble near a tethered particle.



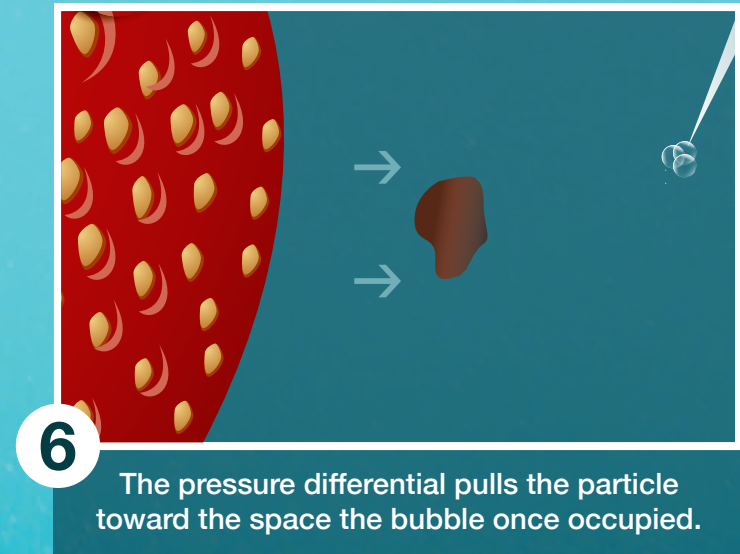
3 The rapidly growing bubble begins to destabilize.



4 As the bubble begins to collapse, a cone shape is created on the side facing the particle, due to a pressure differential.



5 The bubble collapses as the temperature returns to normal.



6 The pressure differential pulls the particle toward the space the bubble once occupied.

Oh, the webs they weave

As a biology doctoral student at Harvard University, Brent Opell remembers thinking that it made little sense for someone setting out on a career to study spiders to be prescribed a class in vertebrate evolution.

Although the leap from invertebrates to vertebrates seemed counterintuitive, Opell, a professor of biological sciences in the Virginia Tech College of Science and a 2015 William E. Wine Award winner for teaching excellence, was snagged. “Somehow, this course in vertebrate evolution put together biology and something akin to mechanics—the physical aspects with the biological aspects—and it was really intriguing to me.”

Over the years, Opell’s study of spiders and their systems and evolution has led to valuable discoveries. His recent research on the adhesive mechanisms of webs has gained the attention of material scientists interested in bio-mimicking spider’s glue for such products as environmentally friendly adhesive bandages.

Growing up in rural Indiana, Opell was drawn to “mechanical things.” From his father, Opell learned how to repair clocks, and he also began repairing guns for a local sporting goods shop. And from his grandfather, he came to appreciate mechanics. “I remember visiting him when I was young, and we’d go out to his shed and take stuff apart. He had cigar box after cigar box filled with parts. He was a big influence on my interest in understanding how things work.”

Go to vtmag.vt.edu to learn more about Opell’s work with spiders and their webs.



COURTESY/PHOTO

Toddler Brent Opell with his grandfather, who introduced him to how things work: “I like to show this picture to my students and tell them, ‘That’s how we learned about dangerous things like sharp saw blades,’” Opell said. “Give us something, and we’ll learn about it one way or another.”

Grant focuses on Virginia housing economics

Virginia Tech’s Center for Housing Research is leading a coalition of researchers from Virginia universities in a two-year project to examine housing economics in the commonwealth.

Awarded \$615,000 from the Office of the Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade and other entities, the coalition is led by Mel Jones, a research associate for the housing center, and Andrew McCoy, associate professor in the Department of Building Construction, the Preston and

Catharine White Fellow, and director of the housing center.

To address the relative importance of the housing industry to Virginia’s economy and to determine how the industry’s strength or weakness affects economic vitality, Jones and McCoy plan to demonstrate

linkages between housing and economic development opportunities, including how housing developments serve as economic catalysts and how community vitality and household well-being perspectives are critical aspects of community and economic development.



JIM STROUP

Vice President of Advancement Charlie Phlegar ’78, ’87 (right), whose father was a member of the corps, was eager to connect with Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randal D. Fullhart.

Engaging growth

by CARRIE COX ’99

Charlie D. Phlegar (business management ’78, M.S. education administration ’87) has an affinity for the corps that runs deep: His father, Archie Phlegar (agricultural engineering ’52, M.S. Extension ’74, Ed.D. educational administration ’78), was a cadet and member of the Highty-Tighties. When Charlie was named the vice president of advancement to lead a new unit formed by the merger of Alumni Relations, University Development, and University Relations, it was no wonder that one of his first stops on campus was to meet with Commandant of Cadets Maj. Gen. Randal D. Fullhart.

“We’re very excited about the advancement model that Charles is bringing to Virginia Tech,” Fullhart said, “and we are already adapting our organization to further engage both our alumni-in-residence—our current cadets—and our amazing alumni and friends of the corps all around the world.”

A recent Gallup poll of Virginia Tech alumni (see page 14 for more on the poll) noted that corps graduates are leading remarkable lives, with measures of well-being that surpass all national aver-

ages for similar universities. “The poll shows that one of the strongest affinity groups for our university, if not the strongest, are graduates of the corps,” said Phlegar.

Even so, the Corps of Cadets is not resting on its laurels. Beginning this academic year, the corps launched the Global Scholars Program, designed to give cadet leaders the opportu-

nity not only to travel abroad, but to link the academic study of leadership to field experience. In May, a select number of cadets, having completed a course as preparation, will travel to France, where they will connect the lessons learned from World War II D-Day operations to U.S. relationships with other countries today.

The generosity of friends and alumni helps make the Global Scholars Program and other facets of corps operations possible. “We know that there is a reservoir of support and energy for enhancing our development of global, ethical leaders,” Fullhart said. “What we hope to do through the advancement model is to better share our vision, our plans, and our accomplishments and how others can become involved in our mission.”

Measures of growth abound. The corps’ size has grown to 1,085 cadets. Hundreds of cadets moved into the first of two new residence halls on the Upper Quad, and plans are moving forward on the new Corps Leadership and Military Science building. Participation in the Citizen-Leader Track, for cadets planning to enter the public and private sectors, is expanding, and Fortune 500 companies are offering paid internships and scholarships to recruit these emerging leaders.

“This corps is moving forward,” Fullhart said. “We are advancing. And we are delighted to be working with Charlie Phlegar and his new team to further our mission of developing global, ethical leaders—now more than ever.” □

Maj. Carrie Cox (M.S. civil engineering ’99) is the Corps of Cadets’ executive officer.



LOGAN WALLACE

Meeting of the minds: Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe (second from left) and Virginia Tech President Timothy D. Sands met with students, including junior finance major Brett Langstaff and sophomore mechanical engineering and computer science major Allie Howe, at the Innovate living-learning community.

Undergraduate innovators share ideas at roundtable

Virginia Tech undergraduate innovators took center stage in October 2015, engaging Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe, state Secretary of Technology Karen Jackson, and Virginia Tech President Timothy D. Sands during roundtable talks at the Innovate living-learning community.

“Virginia is the best state in the nation for young people to innovate, create, and start a business,” said McAuliffe, who shared ideas at the community’s Venture Lab, where Tech students with a passion for entrepreneurship routinely gather.

“We have worked with institutions of higher education to craft policies to give students more rights over their intellectual property, and we have promoted the

formation of collaborative spaces for entrepreneurs and students to meet,” McAuliffe said. “When entrepreneurial students live together in a residential community where they can brainstorm, develop concepts, and create business plans, we are priming them for success and building the new Virginia economy.”

The entrepreneurial mindset is a way of life for Innovate residents and Entrepreneur Club members. “We are building Virginia into the entrepreneurial hub of the nation,” said junior finance major Brett Langstaff, co-founder and president of the living-learning community, which has grown from some 30 members to nearly 60. “With people from all eight colleges majoring in every imaginable subject, we do it all. Successful entrepreneurship takes people who completely understand how a product works, people

who know marketing, others who know finance—and they need to understand each other. We become more versatile. We have engineers working with marketers and accountants working with designers.”

Managing your workplace emotions

Can keeping your feelings in check at work affect the amount of help you give your co-workers?

Published in the *Journal of Applied Psychology*, a new study by a research group that includes Pamplin College of Business Associate Professor of Management Daniel Beal suggests that the more people try to control their emotional expressions at work, the less likely they are to help their colleagues.

“Most jobs require frequent, if not constant, interaction with

other people throughout each day ... and our emotional expressions in these interactions [must] meet certain requirements,” Beal said. “Typically, these ‘display rules’—which are firmly embedded in our society and organizations—consist of appearing courteous, kind, friendly, helpful, and generally happy.” By the end of the workday, employees can be exhausted by this type of emotional labor.

Beal explained that the group’s research focused on better strategies for both controlling emotions and managing resources throughout the workday. The general finding is that workers can manage their emotions more efficiently and effectively by thinking differently about the day’s events. Simply approaching interactions in a more positive manner will elevate one’s mood.

The research also underscores the effectiveness of micro-breaks. “Throughout the day, take a few minutes away from work to do something that you want to do. Although taking the break itself is important, what you do during the break is every bit as important,” Beal said.

Wellness:

Visit vtmag.vt.edu to hear a podcast with Chris Wise and find videos and photos of various Rec Sports programs—such as the crew team, seen below gliding across Claytor Lake.



Fitting award

JIM STROUP

Chris Wise, formerly the director of recreational sports, was recently named the assistant vice president for student affairs, providing leadership to five departments focused on health and wellness.

AQ: How did Virginia Tech become the fittest campus in America?

● In naming Virginia Tech the fittest campus in America, the Active Times referenced other ranking systems and general facts about our university. My favorite part, though, is the review of Niche, a website where our students tell other students all about the school they call home.

I went online to check out the site. As I scrolled through that first page of reviews, I couldn’t suppress a smile, as nearly all postings boasted 4- and 5-star rankings. By both students and the media, Virginia Tech is celebrated and respected as an extraordinary university, and it’s an honor that we’re touted for an atmosphere of overall well-being and fitness.

The atmosphere begins at orientation. Students walk all over our campus and end one of their nights exploring McComas Hall, the newest gym on campus. Then, students who attend Hokie Camp and Hokie Hi events are treated to even more fast-paced fun.

When classes begin, the action continues. We don’t have the largest fitness center in the state, much less in the country, but we have really good ones that provide students exactly what they need. Seventy-eight percent of Virginia Tech students utilize the recreational sports facilities on campus. That’s a remarkable number, but our goal is to reach 100 percent of our students, and we won’t stop until we get there.

The Department of Recreational Sports offers 31 sports clubs and serves more than 13,000 participants each year through

our intramural program. Our exercise classes have lines out the door, and group and individual training and our fitness facilities allow opportunities for students to work out however they want.

Outside of recreational sports, the Corps of Cadets sets a tone for active lifestyles and the development of discipline for a lifetime. And, of course, we have outstanding varsity athletic programs.

When we talk about being “fit,” most people think of physical fitness. While that component is a primary reason for this ranking, fitness speaks to a well-rounded lifestyle. It takes body, mind, and spirit to be fully well. Most recently, our division has combined forces with Human Resources to create Hokie Wellness, which now encompasses both employee and student health. Our faculty and staff are the best role models for our students on campus; if they are pursuing a healthy lifestyle, our students will, too.

Our top-ranked dining centers boast organically grown, sustainable foods. Our students have access to the freshest ingredients through our homemade recipes and healthy options. With nutritionists on staff, Dining Services is dedicated to educating the Virginia Tech community about healthy living.

Being named the fittest campus in America is a title that our university deserves. We’re honored beyond words by this recognition and thrilled to use this as motivation to keep improving what we’re doing to best serve Virginia Tech. □



“I have never seen a deeper, more lasting relationship than the one that exists between our graduates and the institution.”

—Vice President for Advancement Charlie Phlegar '78, '87

42%
Virginia Tech

18%
U.S. institutions

20%
Research institutions

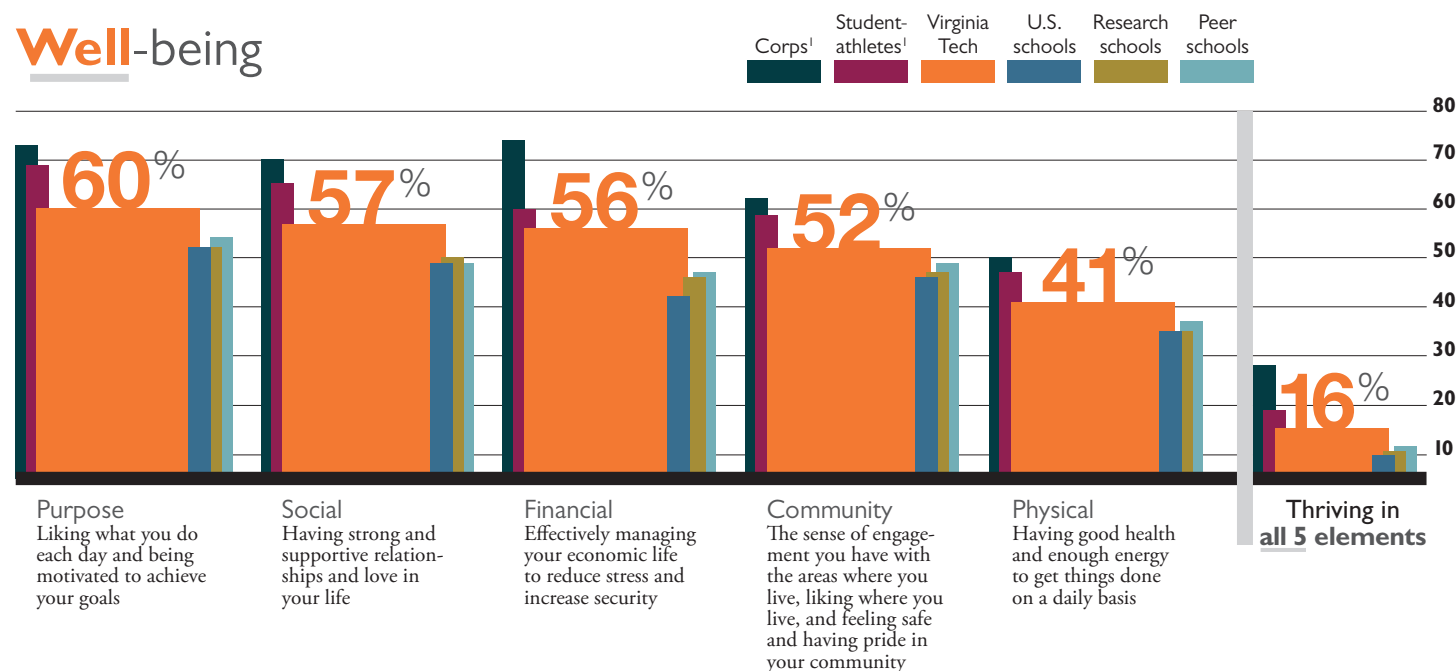
23%
Peer institutions

Emotionally attached to university

Living well

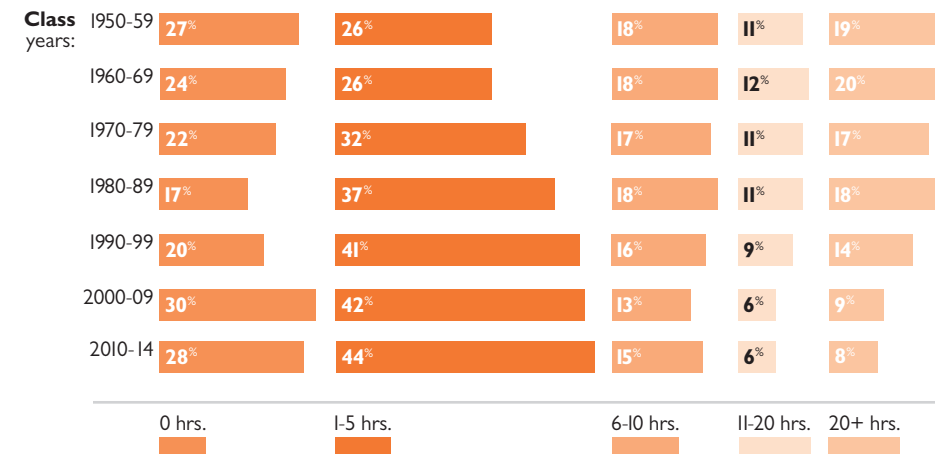
Virginia Tech graduates outpace the national average when it comes to thriving at work, having great careers, and leading lives that matter. Results from a research collaboration with Gallup, designed to create an index that examines the relationship between college experience and long-term success, indicate that Virginia Tech alumni flourish.

Well-being

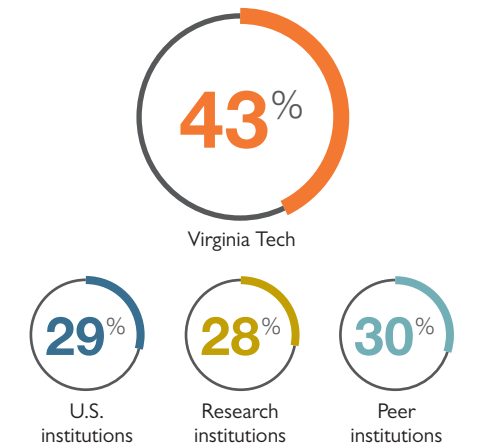


Hokies' community service

hours in past year

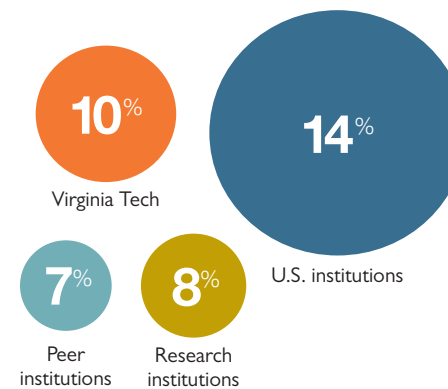


Prepared me well for life outside of college

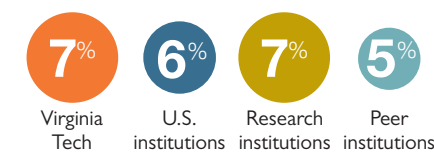


Alongside the largely positive results, the study revealed two challenges for Virginia Tech—offering more experiential learning opportunities and enriching support from professors and mentors—on which university leaders are already focused.

Mentoring support²



Experiential learning²



“We plan to do everything we can to **expand internship opportunities** for our students, because the impact of experiential learning on future success cannot be overstated. Internships build confidence, open doors, and raise ceilings. We want every Virginia Tech undergraduate student to have the opportunity to **participate in a relevant internship** or **undergraduate research experience**, and we are **committed to fostering mentoring relationships** for all of our students.”

—Virginia Tech President Timothy D. Sands

¹Virginia Tech alumni. ²The “mentoring support” values reflect those who strongly agreed that as undergraduates they had all three measures of support: a professor who cared about them as people; a mentor who encouraged them to pursue goals and dreams; and at least one professor who made them excited about learning. The “experiential learning” values reflect those who strongly agreed that they had experienced all three learning opportunities: an internship or job in which they were able to apply classroom learning; were actively involved in co-curricular activities or organizations; and worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete. To read the full report, visit vtnews.vt.edu/documents/2015-08-gallup.pdf.

WE'RE NOT HOPING FOR A BETTER WORLD.
WE'RE CREATING IT.

SINCE DAY ONE, VIRGINIA TECH HAS EXISTED FOR ONE PURPOSE:
 TO USE EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATIVE THOUGHT TO IMPROVE
 OUR COMMUNITY, OUR SOCIETY, AND THE WORLD AT LARGE.

WHEN WE TACKLE THE WORLD'S MOST COMPLEX CHALLENGES, WE PARTNER WITH
 BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURIAL THINKERS THAT SHARE OUR DRIVE.

The Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, where more than 2,900 employees work in 180-plus companies, drives innovation forward by sharing the university's powerful research resources.

LET'S GET STARTED | ThisIsTheFuture.vt.edu



Most-influential **black** artists in musical theater

In addition to compiling the list of influential artists below, Associate Professor of Sociology Paula Marie Seniors, author of "Beyond Lift Every Voice and Sing: The Culture of Uplift, Identity, and Politics in Black Musical Theater" (Ohio State University Press, 2009), has shared a wealth of images, video clips, lyrics, and historical information at vtmag.vt.edu.

-  **Bob Cole** (1868-1911), **James Weldon Johnson** (1871-1938), and **J. Rosamond Johnson** (1873-1954) formed one of the era's most prolific and successful black songwriting teams.
-  **Abbie Mitchell** (1884-1960) emerged as a definitive operatic singer, musical theater star, and dramatic actress.
-  A singer, dancer, actress, and choreographer, **Ada Overton Walker** (1880-1914) later wrote for popular publications.
-  **Eubie Blake** (1887-1983) formed a musical partnership with composer **Noble Sissle** (1889-1975) to produce some of the early 20th century's most successful black musicals.
-  **Josephine Baker** (1906-1975) became an international star in 1925 in "La Revue Nègre" at Paris' Théâtre des Champs-Élysées. A sophisticated singer, dancer, and actress, she served as a French spy during World War II.
-  A highly skilled musician known as the father of "stride piano," **James P. Johnson** (1894-1954) wrote for the theater and the concert stage.
-  Several musicologists believe that **Thomas "Fats" Waller** (1904-1945) wrote "Summertime" or, as Eubie Blake noted, Waller "gave" George Gershwin the song "for a bottle of gin or maybe two bottles."
-  **Duke Ellington** (1889-1974) was the composer and orchestra leader at Harlem's Cotton Club, a white-patron-only nightclub.
-  **Margaret Bonds** (1913-1972) composed symphonies, ballets, piano music, a cantata, and art songs; interpreted the Negro spirituals; and wrote two musicals.
-  Born in 1970, soprano **Audra McDonald** is arguably the best-known black theater talent of the modern era. She has received multiple Tony, Drama Desk, and Drama League awards, among others.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WILLIAM P. GOTTLIEB, IRA AND LEONORE S. GERSHWIN FUND COLLECTION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.



LOGAN WALLACE

Cadets move into Pearson Hall

On Nov. 14, 2015, hundreds of members of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets moved into Pearson Hall, the first entirely new residence hall to open on campus since New Hall West in 2009. Named in recognition of James (agricultural and applied economics '87) and Renae (family and child development '90) Pearson, the hall houses about half of the corps' cadets.

Cadet leaders planned significant portions of the effort—dubbed Operation High Ground—scheduling platoon movements and organizing logistics. For a photo gallery and a video of the move, including the commandant's explanation of the building's various symbols, go to vtmag.vt.edu.

The champ

by JULIET CRICHTON
photo by JIM STROUP

On a shimmering fall day at the Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech, the New River so still that clouds overhead and hardwoods along the far banks were embossed on its surface, a photographer and a writer approached two Tech golfers coming off the 18th green.

“Are either of you Maclain Huge?” asked the photographer.

“We wish,” the golfers replied in unison.

Huge (pronounced HEW-ghee), the team’s co-captain and lone senior, merits the respect. Not only is the communication major and Atlantic Coast Conference All-Academic ranked ninth all-time in career scoring at Tech, he’s the reigning state amateur champion, the first Hokie to hold the title since 1951.

In early July, Huge, of Lovettsville, Virginia, won the 102nd Virginia State Golf Association State Amateur, a grueling five days of stroke and match play, held this year at Farmington Country Club in Charlottesville—enemy territory. During the 36-hole final, Huge said, “Everybody was for [my opponent, from Auburn]. When I made a shot, there was limited applause.”

A four-sport athlete in high school, Huge feels his iron play is the strongest part of his game, but he’s realistic. “One thing is good one week, and another thing is good the next week,” he said. “This fall, my putting has been a little shaky, but I’m working on it. It just never stops.”

Fore!

To follow Huge on the links, go to vtmag.vt.edu.



On winning the state am:

“It was awesome. I’ll take it.”

Ritual:

Huge always uses a ball stamped with 1 or 3, and he marks two black dots on each side of the number.

First club:

When he was four, Huge saw golf on TV and wanted to play. Given a sawed-off 7-iron with electrical tape wrapped around the grip, he was free to hit balls on the family’s 75 acres of farmland. He still has the club, but these days walks the sheep pasture with a wedge.



“Teaching is forever”

by ALBERT RABOTEAU

JIM STROUP

Biologically speaking: Doctoral student Ben Webb is one of the first recipients of a fellowship honoring Noel Krieg, an Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences.

Noel Krieg is rightly proud of his contributions to the body of knowledge in his field, which include co-editing two volumes of “Bergey’s Manual of Systematic Microbiology.”

But after having spent more than 50 years in academia, the Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences recognizes that “research is ephemeral. Over the years, I’ve learned that what is hot now, 10 years later or even five years later will be old hat. Teaching, on the other hand, is forever.”

The impact of Krieg’s teaching was driven home in August 2015, when many of his former students returned to Blacksburg for a dinner in his honor. Though Krieg retired in 1999, his legacy of inspiring tomorrow’s scientists continues through a graduate

fellowship his former students recently endowed within the College of Science.

“Noel got us going, and this was a way of giving back in recognition,” said Paul Hoffman (biological sciences ’72, Ph.D. microbiology ’78), who is a professor of medicine in the University of Virginia School of Medicine’s Division of Infectious Diseases and International Health and in the school’s Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology.

Though he will not study under Krieg, doctoral student Ben Webb said he’s honored and inspired to have earned one of the first Krieg fellowships.

“It’s an inspiration to be named a Krieg Fellow because to me it means that I’m doing something right and that people recognize my work,” said Webb, a native of Richmond, Virginia, who is working toward a Ph.D. in biological sciences with a focus in microbiology. “This makes me work even harder toward my goals.”

Similar stories of faculty mentors whose dedication to teaching has inspired philanthropy can be found across Virginia Tech. Through the fellowships, scholarships, and professorships they have inspired, these extraordinary educators continue to make an impact.

Teaching—and spirit

David Kohl was a professor of agricultural economics for 25 years before retiring from the university in 2003. He is the namesake of a teaching and outreach center, a fellowship, and a faculty chair position in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

“I taught over 10,000 students in my undergraduate courses, and one of the most gratifying things was to see these students go on and be successful in life, not only in their careers, but with their families as well,” Kohl said. “Whether they’ve given back \$10 or \$500,000 or millions, it’s very humbling to know they’ve given both money and effort to keep a tradition and legacy going on.”

J. Pearson (agricultural and applied economics ’87), managing director of P&L Enterprises and a professor of practice in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, describes Kohl as “the most influential teacher I have ever had.” He said he has given in honor of Kohl because “I want other students to benefit from his teachings and spirit like I did.”

Since November 2014, the David M. Kohl Junior Faculty Fellowship has been held by Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics Kimberly Morgan. The Kohl fellowship has made it possible to fund a variety of experiential learning opportunities for undergraduates, Morgan said, including an awareness campaign her students conducted to highlight how the public can share the road safely with farm vehicles.

Among multiple donors to the Kohl fellowship is Mike Ewing (agricultural and applied economics ’80), vice chairman and CEO of Oak View National Bank. “He is the person who helped me get my start in life,” Ewing said of Kohl. “I could never repay him for what I owe him, but this was one way that I could pay it forward.”

Honor your mentor

If a faculty member made a difference in your life, we’d love to hear about it and possibly feature your story on the University Development Tumblr blog, viriniatech.tumblr.com.

Email raboteau@vt.edu to learn more.

Ties that stand the test of time

When Professor of Forestry Richard Vasey retired in 1990, he returned to his home state of California, where he lives about 60 miles north of Sacramento. Despite being thousands of miles away, he has been visited by multiple former students from the East Coast. One former student whose father had died asked Vasey to give her away at her wedding. And when Vasey’s wife died in 2015, more than 40 former students got in touch to offer condolences. “There are people, many decades later, still thinking about me,” he said. “I find that flattering, and kind of surprising and shocking.”

In the College of Natural Resources and Environment, students who were not even born when Vasey retired can still benefit from the generosity of alumni, friends, and colleagues who endowed the Richard B. Vasey Scholarship in his honor.

One of those former students, John Bailey (forestry and wildlife ’83, master of forestry ’85), took classes from Vasey but also served on the student fire crew Vasey oversaw. With help from Vasey, Bailey developed work experience while still in school, teaching forestry skills to undergraduates, then later traveled to Oregon for a summer program with the U.S. Forest Service.

Given his former professor’s role as a mentor, Bailey said, it was natural to contribute to the Vasey scholarship in order to show “love for the man and respect for what a difference he made in my life and so many others’ lives.”

Today, Bailey is an associate professor of silviculture and fire management at Oregon State University, where he begins each class by reading a different book passage aloud in order to cue students to settle down and begin learning. It’s a technique he learned from Vasey. □

Albert Raboteau is the director of development communications for Virginia Tech.

Tale OF THE Later

by RICHARD LOVEGROVE
photos by JIM STROUP

The recipe for Virginia Tech's regular appearance atop Princeton Review's list of best campus food (No. 1 in 2015, 2010, and 2008) most certainly includes the universal appeal of french fries.

The Southgate Food Processing Center—a little-known but key ingredient in the success of the university's dining program—prepares hundreds of thousands of pounds of food and then distributes the food to the campus's nine dining centers, a just-in-time approach that not only enhances freshness, consistency, and taste, but also saves money. For instance, potatoes bound for Burger 37 in Squires Student Center are a study in efficiency.



1 Workers roll in pallets of 60-count boxes of 1-pound Idaho potatoes. Various dining venues on campus use spuds grown at Kentland Farm, but the varieties raised there are too small for Burger 37's massive fries.



2 Up to 300 pounds of potatoes at a time are poured into the 90-gallon Altair washer. Despite the fact that the tubers arrive already scrubbed, they spend 10-15 minutes luxuriating in an antimicrobial vegetable wash.



3 One by one, the potatoes are sliced on a special cutter for Burger 37 fries, demonstrated at right by Paul Fonner, the pre-prep supervisor. And there's no waste—the skin stays on. "When we say 'hand-cut,' they're hand-cut," said Michael Corbin, operations manager of pre-prep and the bake shop at Southgate Food Processing Center.



4 After the cut spuds are washed again to remove starch, they're packed 75 pounds to a batch into barrels and covered with water. Until the barrels are trucked over to Burger 37, they are stored in the cooler. As long as the fries are completely immersed, they can last three days in the barrels.

5 At Burger 37, the fries are blanched and then quickly chilled. They are fried at a low temperature to take out some more starch, cooled for 15 minutes, and then fried at a high temperature to blister the skin and give them a golden color.

Without the work done at Southgate, Squires Food Production Manager Michael Vanedistine estimates that he'd have to double his staff and buy \$50,000 to \$60,000 more in equipment—at Burger 37 alone. And the restaurant would also need more space.

Who knew efficiency could taste so good? ☐

The Southgate Food Processing Center preps a variety of items for Burger 37 and other campus eateries.

In 2014-15, Southgate sliced up:

277,550 lbs. OF potatoes

147,021 lbs. OF tomatoes

81,000 lbs. OF onions





COMMON BOOK

uncommon
learning

by JESSE TUEL
photos by LOGAN WALLACE

“ I’ve learned that courage and compassion are two sides of the same coin, and that every warrior, every humanitarian, every citizen is built to live with both. In fact, to win a war, to create peace, to save a life, or just to live a good life requires of us—of every one of us—that we be both good and strong.”

—Eric Greitens, author of
“The Heart and The Fist”



Reflections: Already drawn to the international business world, freshman business information technology major Emily Shull was prompted, in part by the university’s Common Book, to add a second major in religion and culture.

Of all the problems facing the world's estimated 60 million refugees, there is one that the 100 first-year students in the Introduction to Building Construction course were prepared to tackle: housing.

In late October, the students began sharing their ideas on housing solutions for displaced people, ahead of developing research papers on their chosen topics: Providing air-conditioning without electricity. Transporting building materials to remote locations. Erecting structurally sound shelters in earthquake-prone regions. Offering energy-efficient light for refugees at night. Purifying water.

Associate Professor Thomas Mills and Renee Ryan, an academic advisor, encouraged their students to distill their ideas into specific research questions. Strolling an aisle, Mills flipped to the epilogue of Virginia Tech's 2015-16 Common Book, "The Heart and The Fist," and quoted the author, Eric Greitens: "I focused on changing one life at a time." Mills suggested that the students reflect on how their housing ideas might change individual lives.

"Each statistic is a problem," Ryan added, noting that many refugees are children, some orphaned. "We're making this research personal. We think that every one of you is capable of changing the world."

Those new to Virginia Tech quickly come to understand the community's defining traits, such as pride, service, and tradition. One method for introduction is Greitens' 300-page memoir detailing his globe-trotting adventures as a humanitarian, Rhodes Scholar, U.S. Navy SEAL, and founder of The Mission Continues, a non-profit organization that challenges veterans to serve in U.S. communities. Greitens' text—the university's ninth Common Book—was distributed free of charge to

some 7,200 first-year and transfer students before fall 2015 classes began.

Since its 1998 inception, the Common Book Project, led by the Office of First-Year Experiences, has sought to enrich the first-year experience and create a sense of community among students. Faculty members from a surprising variety of academic disciplines partner with the office to integrate the book into their curricula.

An inspired visit

Place a former SEAL like Greitens on a stage, and you'll be sure to capture the attention of the Corps of Cadets, who represented a sizeable portion of members of the audience that nearly filled Burruss Hall auditorium's 3,003 seats in early November.

When Greitens greeted the crowd, the cadets belted out a response: "Good evening, sir!"

In the fall semester, about a dozen first sergeants led weekly Common Book discussions with the first-year cadets under their command. Understandably, "The Heart and The Fist" holds special resonance for cadets—and not just because of the descriptions of Greitens' four deployments.

For the freshmen, immersed in learning all the intricate demands of corps life, the chapter on boxing, which Greitens took up as a Duke University undergraduate, was especially appealing. Greitens' boxing coach harped on the proper care for boxing gloves, such as washing the laces once a week.

"If you can't take care of your shoes, if your shirt can't be pressed and wrinkle-free, how can we expect you to do the big things?" said Hunter Garth, a first sergeant with Golf Company and a junior finance major.

Alece Alderson, the corps' residential

"We're making this research personal. We think that every one of you is capable of changing the world."

—Renee Ryan

learning coordinator, helped the first sergeants develop the discussions. Right away, the cadets asked for more challenging questions in their lesson plans: Should an overseas trip be adventurous or purposeful? In a crisis, should the U.S. send armed forces, funds, or humanitarians?

"It's so intriguing to see [cadets] want to learn," Alderson said. "And it's not because they have to. It's because they really want to."

Garth's initial reading of the book in July, meanwhile, was "literally perfect timing," he said. In the summer, as part of a cultural understanding and language program with U.S. Army ROTC, Garth traveled to Guyana, in South America. After he had spent 10 minutes in a Guyanese marketplace in a guarded fashion, nervous about pickpockets and other threats, he remembered one of Greitens' anecdotes from Kenya: Sunglasses up and weapons down, the SEAL left the confines of his compound to go into a market and engage Kenyans on a personal level. So Garth relaxed, took his hands out of his pockets, and started engaging the Guyanese people.

"We have to turn those differences into strengths instead of roadblocks," Garth said, echoing Greitens' notion of balancing compassion and force, "knowing that you're trying to leave a place better than you found it."

For Garth, who hopes to become an Army infantry officer and later transition into military intelligence, the book changed his boyhood perception of military life, from one of kicking down doors to one of serving others and developing relationships.



Leading: Junior finance major Hunter Garth and his fellow first sergeants led Common Book discussion groups with the first-year cadets under their command. Garth, who is especially proud of the cadets' development and growth, said the book added credibility to abstract concepts, such as leadership, that the corps emphasizes with cadets.

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

Collaborating with the Office of First-Year Experiences, the university's Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research (CIDER) supports faculty members who integrate the Common Book into their courses, offering faculty development workshops, one-on-one course consulting, a resources website with sample assignments and activities, and grant funding for curriculum development.

"One of the most valuable aspects of the Common Book is being able to create a common experience for first-year students," said Tiffany Shoop, CIDER assistant director. "It's exciting to see how the book can be used in so many different ways [and] to see instructors connect the book to the experiences of first-year students, as well as to different aspects of their disciplines across campus."

Diverse applications

In the week of Veterans Day, two student veterans with a combined seven deployments between them led Common Book discussions in the College of Natural Resources and Environment's First-Year Experience course.

Professor Dean Stauffer sought to emphasize two primary lessons in the book: appreciating and understanding different cultures and adhering to honor and integrity. "In our college, much of what we do is taking knowledge of natural resources and applying strategies to help people, which may come across as imposing our will," Stauffer said. "It's a lot more beneficial to go into any situation and understand the culture and to work with people, rather than to force something on them."

Business-minded

When Pamplin College of Business Professor Stephen Skripak was an executive with Sara Lee Corp., he told his 140-person team that he couldn't be successful unless

they were successful. Such a partnership is what Skripak gleaned from Greitens' description of SEAL training: the camaraderie to pick each other up and overcome challenges.

For his Pamplin course surveying business topics for first-year students, Skripak has underscored three themes from the book: leadership and teamwork, ethics and social responsibility, and cultural awareness. "The Heart and The Fist" added a "spark to the conversation" for students across campus, he said. "[The book] gives everybody an opportunity for some sort of connection, and then they can go as deep as they want with it."

Coming to Tech from a magnet school with a heavy course load, freshman Emily Shull was leery of yet another "summer reading" assignment when she received the book during orientation activities in July. But Greitens, opening the book with his college experiences and then writing about war without sounding "pedantic," won her over, Shull said. Drawn to the internationally



Inspiration: Megan Hogan (left) and Chelsea Robertson are teaching assistants in the Da Vinci and Curie living-learning communities. Drawn to the text's flexibility when she applied for her post, Hogan requested the opportunity to teach Common Book content.

minded lessons on cultural sensitivity, Shull, pursuing a business information technology major and international business minor, saw a way to enhance her "profitability as a businesswoman," she said. "I ended up adding a religion and culture major, partially because of the book."

Shull also applauded the ties between the book and the university's "stress upon service." Said Shull, "I think the book is reflective of Virginia Tech's value of *Ut Prosim* [That I May Serve]. It's quite comforting to be at a school that cares so much for humankind [and] picked a book like this that shows 'care' in a global way."

"Go to your Pylon!"

As a member of the Common Book Project Committee, Marlene Preston, the communication department's assistant head and

It's quite comforting to be at a school that cares so much for humankind [and] picked a book like this that shows 'care' in a global way."

—Emily Shull

Greitens' hardships informed his service and helped the soldier understand how he could make an impact. "It's deep," Cheatham said of the book. "It talks about everything that Tech values."

The Brotherhood pylon called out to Jordan Hogge, a freshman public relations major from Williamsburg, Virginia. In the Virginia Tech Summer Academy, Hogge met her best friend, on whom she's relied for support. In turn, she has applied to be a peer mentor for the 2016 academy, wanting to help incoming students build friendships. "I now know [that] being here, it's so stressful. You only have each other," she said of her friends. "Those friendships are extremely important to me."

In another communication course, advanced instructor Dale Jenkins assigned small groups different sections of the book—Greitens' time studying at the University of Oxford, hunting terrorists in Iraq, confronting poverty in Bolivia, and more—and asked them to deliver a presentation and short quiz. "Make it come to life," he said.

One group of four discussed Greitens' SEAL training. "He says that people quit because they let fear get to them," said Alison LeMair, a multimedia journalism major. "He says that, like, 20 times."

director of undergraduate programs, appreciates the committee's selection of books that reflect the Pylons' values. "When students receive a free book that everyone is reading, they immediately understand that it reflects something important to Virginia Tech," Preston said. "First-year students are exploring, changing, and affirming their personal identities. Using the book as a springboard, they can consider their own values and goals and their new lives as Hokies, college students, pre-professionals, and local and global community members."

Since the program's beginnings, instructors of the two-semester Communications Skills course in the communication department have incorporated the book as stu-

dents develop writing and speaking skills necessary for university-level discourse.

On a cloudy fall day, students in Brandi Quesenberry's class crossed the street to visit the Pylons at the end of a class period.

"Everybody go to your pylon," a student called out. Students had selected a pylon value about which they would write, and as they approached their chosen pylons, they fulfilled a portion of Quesenberry's assignment by doing what college students are prone to do anyway: They took selfies.

Joe Cheatham, a freshman business information technology major from Chesterfield, Virginia, was drawn to the *Ut Prosim* pylon. He appreciated how

“Every time in your life you make a decision that you are voluntarily willing to confront your fears, your character evolves.”

—Eric Greitens



A challenge: U.S. Navy SEAL Eric Greitens established a nonprofit organization to challenge returning veterans to lead lives of service, leadership, and purpose at home. He reminds veterans to recall their military training and service: “There’s a real opportunity in all that hardship, if we have the right mindset,” Greitens told a Burruss Hall audience.

LeMair cited a particular page, and the others flipped to the passage while she read aloud.

Amy Margolin, who is still undecided in her major, reminded her classmates of how Greitens described the perspective of a soldier who continuously—and jokingly—threatened to quit, but never did. As Greitens wrote, “I can quit later if I have to, but this, whatever this is that I have to do—hold this log over my head, or sit in the freezing surf, or run down the beach

with the boat bouncing on my head—I can do this for at least ten more seconds, and that’s really all I have to do.”

Centered on service

Megan Hogan and Chelsea Robertson, undergraduate teaching assistants in the Da Vinci and Curie living-learning communities, respectively, are leading the teaching of Common Book themes in course sections of 80-100 students. Some students researched

the global events in the book, and others presented “creative culture” projects to showcase the countries Greitens visited.

In addition, students plan to pursue local or regional service projects through such organizations as Habitat for Humanity. The book is “centered on *Ut Prosim*,” said Robertson, a junior math major from Farmville, Virginia, who is now considering how she might fill her summer with a service project. “It’s what we’re about. We

use [the book] as a way to inspire freshmen to get involved in service projects.”

“This Common Book, in particular, makes it very easy to talk to people about service. It’s a very easy book to draw from,” said Hogan, a sophomore animal and poultry sciences major from Dallastown, Pennsylvania. “It makes you feel like you can do anything and go anywhere and have an impact on people.” □

Assistant Editor Mason Adams contributed to this story.

COMMON BOOKS AT VIRGINIA TECH

On an annual basis, the Common Book Project Committee either selects a new book or approves the existing book for an additional year.

1998-2004:

“Einstein’s Dreams,” by Alan Lightman

2004-05:

“Life of Pi,” by Yann Martel

2005-07:

“Branded: The Buying and Selling of Teenagers,” by Alissa Quart

2007-09:

“Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man who Would Cure the World,” by Tracy Kidder

2009-10:

“Ecological Intelligence: How Knowing the Hidden Impacts of What We Buy Can Change Everything,” by Daniel Goleman

2010-11:

“Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life,” by Barbara Kingsolver

2011-13:

“This I Believe II: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women,” edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman

2013-15:

“Little Princes: One Man’s Promise to Bring Home the Lost Children of Nepal,” by Conor Grennan

Shannon Mann, a senior biological sciences major, read “Little Princes” as an undergraduate teaching assistant for the Da Vinci living-learning community. So inspired was Mann that she traveled to Nepal for a month, working at an orphanage and teaching English in Kathmandu. “The people don’t have the things we take for granted, like running water and electricity, but they appreciate everything they have,” Mann said. “They are spiritual and religious and they love their families and each other and everything they’re given. It’s a beautiful way of thinking. With so little they can appreciate so much more. It’s a nice way of thinking that I was able to bring back with me.”

2015-16:

“The Heart and The Fist,” by Eric Greitens

After receiving 163 recommendations for 103 books, the committee selected “The Heart and The Fist,” drawn by how well the book reflected Virginia Tech’s values, particularly the motto, Ut Prosim (That I May Serve). As Greitens told the Virginia Tech community, “There’s a tremendous joy to be found in service.”



thanks,
COACH

thanks, coach

W

hen Frank Beamer emerged from the tunnel, jogged onto Worsham Field, and donned his headset, the expression on his face said “business as usual.”

Everything else about the coach’s final home game on Nov. 21 versus the University of North Carolina said otherwise. Pre-game hugs on the sideline. A congratulatory video message from Metallica. Both 25-yard-lines—a nod to Beamer’s collegiate number—embellished with his signature. A nearly miraculous finish, with a furious 14-point comeback to push the game to overtime. Players carrying their coach off the field.

Twenty days before, Beamer, a 1969 graduate of Virginia Tech, had announced that the season would be his last.



Game time: Beamer takes the field for his final home game. Photo by Keith Moore '82.

I will be forever grateful to everyone who made these past three decades the best years of my life,” Beamer said.

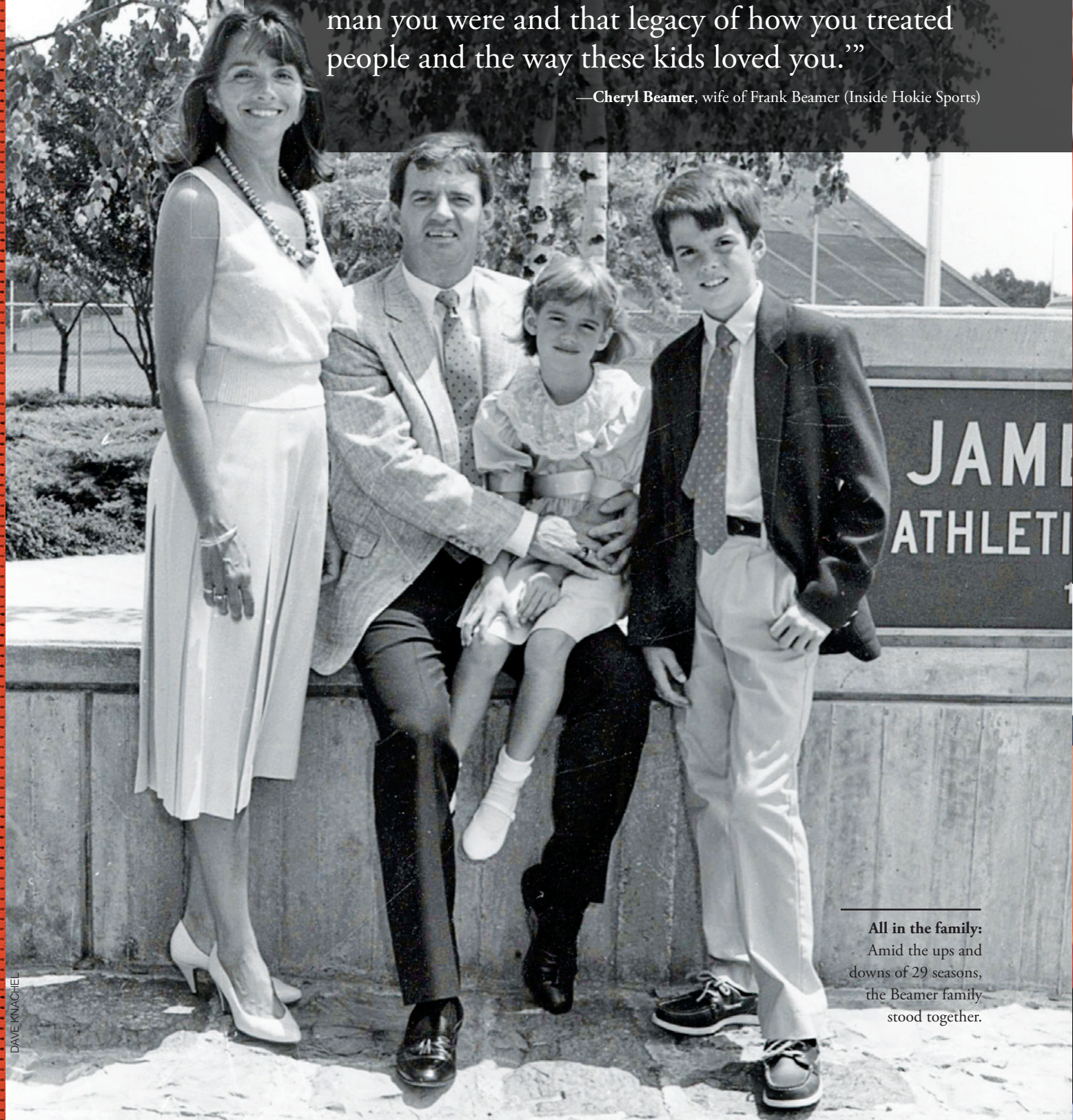
I AM SO HONORED AND HUMBLLED
to have served as your head coach.”

I know he wanted to win a national championship. I've told him,

YOU'VE ALREADY WON ONE.

I said, 'Your national championship is the type of man you were and that legacy of how you treated people and the way these kids loved you.'

—Cheryl Beamer, wife of Frank Beamer (Inside Hokie Sports)



All in the family: Amid the ups and downs of 29 seasons, the Beamer family stood together.

I know some fans have different opinions on the direction of the program, but he's at a peace with [retiring], and this is his decision. It's amazing how appreciative people have been for what he and the staff have done for Virginia Tech. ... Now that he has the decision out of the way, he's enjoying this, really trying to savor every minute of it. He deserves it, too, every bit of it, because success never changed him.

HE'S THE SAME PERSON NOW

as he was in 1992, when he almost got fired, and that's the thing I'm the proudest of as his son, the example he's set for all of us in how to treat people and how to live your life."

—Shane Beamer, son and associate head coach (ESPN.com)



thanks, coach

Beamer coached 25 sets of brothers in 29 years at Tech, with four families sending three or more sons to play for him, according to an ESPN story.

“It really has a lot to do with being approachable,” said Felecia Edmunds, the mother of Terrell, Tremaine, and Trey Edmunds. “You have to feel you can go to a coach at any time, that you can ask them anything, and you have to feel they’re being honest with you. Integrity has to be there. When parents let their babies go, they have to feel and know that someone is watching over them. ... Coach Beamer has always said to us: ‘Any time you feel like calling, call.’ When you feel comfortable with one child, then you feel comfortable to send the next ones in line.”

Said Trey Edmunds, “All that Coach Beamer has done ... it goes way past numbers in a record book. He’s instilled something that’s going to be here forever. When people talk about Virginia Tech football, Coach Beamer’s name will always be remembered. For us players, we all look up to Coach Beamer. We’re playing for a legend. How many people can say they’re playing for a legend?”



The dab: Never one to shy away from dancing (Google the Hokies’ Harlem Shake), Beamer brought the house down with the “dab” dance following the Hokies’ win versus the University of Virginia. See the video at vtmag.vt.edu. Photo by Dave Knachel.

He is who he is:

HONEST, CARING, AND RESPECTFUL.

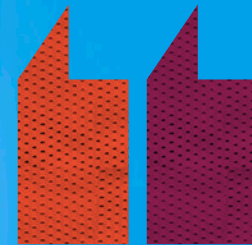
—Frank Beamer, when asked at a news conference how he would like to be remembered (Inside Hokie Sports)

THE BEAMER BALL TIMELINE

- DEC. 23, 1986** | Beamer hired
- SEPT. 12, 1987** | First game (loss to Clemson)
- OCT. 3, 1987** | First win (vs. Navy)
- OCT. 7, 1989** | First win vs. ranked team (WVU)
- NOV. 24, 1990** | First win vs. UVA
- SEPT. 11, 1993** | Blasts Pittsburgh, 63-21 — *Beamer often said the game turned the fortunes of the program.*
- DEC. 31, 1993** | Bowl streak begins (win vs. Indiana)

25
VT
BEAMER

From every perspective—whether from players, peers, parents, or bosses—Beamer is a beloved figure.



“Frank Beamer has been one of the icons, in my mind, in this era of coaching. He’s one of the great guys in our profession. I’ve always admired him as a coach, but also the professional character that he always carries himself with and the way he treats other people. I think their program has been one of the stellar programs through the years.”

—**Nick Saban**, University of Alabama head football coach (AL.com)

“Everybody always [asked] me when I first got into the league, ‘Why did you go to Virginia Tech over some of these other schools?’ It’s that personal connection, that personal touch that those coaches just created with me and a lot of the other players that they were able to recruit and get to come to Blacksburg.”

—**DeAngelo Hall**, Washington Redskins defensive back (The Washington Post)

“When Frank first came here, people didn’t have ‘VTs’ on their car. We couldn’t even get anybody to carry paraphernalia in their stores. Nobody wore sweat-shirts with Virginia Tech on them. ... I had a chance to watch Frank every day. I knew he was a good teacher, and he was a good coach.”

—former Virginia Tech athletics director **Dave Braine** (The Roanoke Times)

“Coach always stayed in touch and encouraged me to be the best that I can be. The one thing he always stressed was to keep my family first. Before he asked me anything, he would ask me how my family was doing, how my kids were doing. He always wanted the best for my life, not just as a professional football player, because he knew that that would happen, but as an individual.”

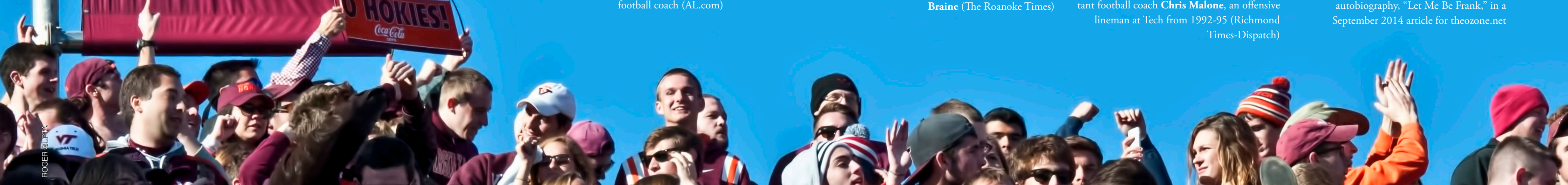
—**Michael Vick**, Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback (ESPN)

“He put them on the map, made them relevant. When I was a kid in Virginia, no one wanted to go to Virginia Tech. They all wanted to go to UVA. He took a bunch of ‘try hard’ guys and Virginia kids and made them buy into changing the culture.”

—University of Tennessee at Chattanooga assistant football coach **Chris Malone**, an offensive lineman at Tech from 1992-95 (Richmond Times-Dispatch)

“Beamer is just the type of guy to make coffee for the office secretaries, move his car so an elderly person could have a better parking spot, take a campus visitor to lunch, buy a gift card for a staff member who became engaged a day earlier, drive 80 miles round-trip to spend an hour with a friend dying of cancer, stand up five times during dinner to have his picture taken with fans, smiling and laughing each time as if he had known those strangers for a lifetime, or tip a waitress 50 percent of the bill because he overheard her say she was struggling to pay off her student loans. You know what makes the man special? I witnessed him do all of those things in one day—February 11, 2013, to be exact.”

—**Jeff Snook**, who co-wrote Beamer’s autobiography, “Let Me Be Frank,” in a September 2014 article for theozone.net



SEPT. 23, 1995

First win vs. Miami

NOV. 11, 1995

First Big East title

DEC. 31, 1995

Sugar Bowl win

—*Beating Texas, 28-10, the Hokies arrive on the national stage.*

NOV. 7, 1997

Hall of Fame

—*Beamer is inducted into the Virginia Tech Sports Hall of Fame.*

NOV. 26, 1999

Undefeated regular season completed

JAN. 4, 2000

National title game

thanks, coach



My mom and dad informed me just a couple of days ago that you had decided to retire from coaching. I know this was a decision you gave much thought to—a decision that was very difficult for you to make.

I guess all things have to come to an end. The difficult part is deciding when.

I just wanted to take a moment to say

thank you for what you have done

for me over the years. I know this: What I am doing today and what I am very happy doing would never have been possible if it had not been for you.”

—In a 1974 letter, Frank Beamer, then an assistant coach at The Citadel, wrote to his former high school coach (The Roanoke Times)



Jimmy Robertson, editor of Inside Hokie Sports magazine, contributed to this story.

VIRGINIA TECH ATHLETICS

SEPT. 12, 2002

Beamer's jersey retired

DEC. 4, 2004

First ACC title

DEC. 6, 2008

Defends ACC title

The Hokies become back-to-back league champions.

JAN. 1, 2009

Orange Bowl win (Cincinnati)

DEC. 4, 2010

ACC title (FSU)

SEPT. 6, 2014

Stuns No. 8 Ohio State

AUG. 6, 2015

Spring Road renamed Beamer Way

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of '46, '51, '56, and '61

May 18 – 20, 2016

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www.alumni.vt.edu/oldguard

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VirginiaTechforlife
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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HOKIE CENTRIC
on campus in North End Center
(540) 231-6114

BOOKSTORE.VT.EDU

Welcome home

It may have been nearly 30 years ago since I moved into Vawter Hall as a freshman, but I remember it like it was yesterday.

The fall day was crisp, and the sky was cloudless. Half of the residents had already set up their lofts and taped posters on their walls. My roommate and I trudged up three flights of stairs with our bags, our small refrigerator, and our stereo equipment—which turned out to be our most important possession. Our hall mates' musical tastes were broad and diverse, and we used these new inventions known as compact discs to introduce ourselves to those who came together from around the world to join the Hokie Nation.

Over the next four years, I learned from faculty members who were experts in their fields and cared for students like me. I logged countless miles on that wind-blown Drill-field in the heat, rain, sleet, and snow. I spent hours sitting on the walls in front of McBryde Hall, Dietrick Dining Hall, and Pamplin Hall, waiting to talk with friends. And I hung out in the stacks in the Newman Library, seeking a quiet place to study.

Since those days as an undergraduate, I've enjoyed being an alumnus. Like many of you, I have attended reunions and game-watching parties. I have contributed to scholarships, recruited students to Tech, and helped fellow Hokies find job opportunities. And I have returned to campus to cheer for our student-athletes, visit with a former professor, and hang out with old friends—all while sporting the familiar colors of Chicago maroon and burnt orange.

My history with Virginia Tech is just a glimpse into the shared experiences of the Hokie Nation. Whether you came from a large or small school, whether you were in-state or out-of-state, or whether you were in the Corps of Cadets or the Marching Virginians, you have so many things in common with the person beside whom you sat in class, your next-door neighbor in your apartment or dorm, or the person with whom you shared a bus seat. We are almost 250,000 strong, and we have a collective legacy of service, success, and memories. We are all Hokies, and that means something.

That legacy is what makes my new role in alumni relations so incredibly exciting. I get to explore the ties that bind us, celebrate with you those shared experiences, and engage with you in service to an institution that has given each of us so much. Thank you for taking this journey with me.

Go, Hokies!

Matthew M. Winston Jr. (marketing management '90) was named the senior associate vice president for alumni relations in September 2015.

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Alumni Association events



Civil War Weekend – March 18-20

For a quarter century, our annual Civil War Weekend has showcased Virginia Tech's many contributions to the study of Civil War history. Virginia Tech alumni and other Civil War enthusiasts will gather once again at The Inn at Virginia Tech. Sponsored in partnership with the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, the program includes lectures from leading historians, such as James I. "Bud" Robertson Jr. and William C. "Jack" Davis, as well as Civil War-era music from two bands.

\$275 per person, or \$100 for Saturday only

Behind the Scenes at Virginia Tech – April 8-10

Take in tours of new research laboratories, computing operations, athletic facilities, and academic buildings. Hear from faculty about how their research is making an impact.

\$125 per person

A Day in the Life of College Admissions – July 8-9

This program assists 2017 and 2018 high school graduates and their parents with navigating the college application process. Highlights include pointers for conducting an effective college search, a behind-the-scenes look at college admissions, and application preparation tips from admissions professionals. Register early to secure your spot in a program that regularly sells out.

\$130 per adult, \$100 per student

For alumni and their families and friends, the Alumni Association is offering weekend programs devoted to history, health, behind-the-scenes glimpses of Virginia Tech, and the interests of college-bound students. Additional events offer opportunities to connect with fellow alumni at a golf tournament or a microbrew festival.

For more information, visit alumni.vt.edu. Accommodations at The Inn at Virginia Tech are available for all events. For reservations and special alumni pricing, call 877-200-3360.

JIM STROUP



Fourth Annual Hokie Classic Golf Tournament – June 13

Join fellow alumni, guests, and friends for a captain's choice golf tournament at the award-winning Pete Dye River Course. Registration includes greens fees, cart, scoring and door prizes, a commemorative polo shirt, adult beverages, lunch, and a post-tournament dinner in the beautiful clubhouse overlooking the New River. Enjoyable for golfers of every skill level, the tournament will feature Virginia Tech coaches and former varsity players.

\$135 per person, \$500 per foursome

JIM STROUP

Alumni Association Board of Directors ballot

The board of directors nominating committee has proposed the following nominees for election to three-year terms from 2016 through 2019. Please vote for up to 11 nominees, and return the ballot by Friday, April 1. Results will be announced at the Alumni Association board meeting in late April.

- Justin O. Graves (sociology '12, M.A. educational leadership and policy studies '14), Fairfax, Virginia
- Travis E. Hardy (geography '01), Leesburg, Virginia
- Matthew T. Joy (M.D. '14), Roanoke, Virginia
- Mark S. Lawrence (management '80), Roanoke, Virginia
- Melissa Byrne Nelson (finance '92), Richmond, Virginia
- Richard S. Roszak (management '71), Blacksburg, Virginia
- Susan Bull Ryan (biological sciences '68), Fredericksburg, Virginia
- Winston A. Samuels (M.S. animal science '81, Ph.D. '83), Warwick, New York
- Judy McIntire Springer (international studies, communication '95), Swedesboro, New Jersey
- Keith J. Stemple (history '95), Washington, D.C.
- Kai M. Zuehlke (engineering science and mechanics '05), Atlanta, Georgia

Write-in nomination

Signature

Return to:
Virginia Tech Alumni Association
Holtzman Alumni Center (0102)
901 Prices Fork Road
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Virginia Tech alumni chapter contacts

Get involved with the Alumni Association through one of the 130-plus chapters and clubs around the world. Find a chapter or club near you today. Questions? Contact Ginny Ritenour, ginnyr@vt.edu.

IN-STATE:

Alleghany Highlands – Kathleen All, sandkall@aol.com | **Augusta** – Carrie Covey, augusta-countyhokies@gmail.com | **Central Virginia** – Larry Grant II, grantle@vt.edu | **Charlottesville** – Martin Harar, martin.j.harar@ml.com | **Commonwealth** – **Volunteer needed** | **Danville** – **Volunteer needed** | **Eastern Shore** – Worth Saunders, aes3ptocs@yahoo.com | **Emporia/Roanoke Rapids** – Kevin Swenson, kswenson692@gmail.com | **Fauquier** – Robert Miller, robert.miller2@ml.com | **Franklin County/Smith Mountain Lake** – Tom Curling, fcsmlhokies@yahoo.com | **Fredericksburg Area** – Frank Eak, feak@va.metrocast.net | **Halifax** – Carlyle Wimbish, mrtech61@gmail.com | **Loudoun County** – Lynnette Mergler, 111gh-th0user@earthlink.net | **Massanutten** – Britt Hockenberry, britthockenberry@gmail.com | **National Capital Region** – Brent Blevins, brent.blevins@ncrhokies.org | **New River Valley** – Cyndy Graham, cyndyvt1@gmail.com | **Patrick Henry** – **Volunteer needed** | **Peanut** – **Volunteer needed** | **Peninsula** – Lindsay Helbing, losterna@vt.edu | **Piedmont (Culpeper Area)** – **Volunteer needed** | **Prince William** – Krysta Ardigo, krysta@invitemeinventions.net | **Richmond** – Charlie Wood, charliewood@attributesforsuccess.com | **Roanoke Valley** – Amanda Downing, roanokehokies@gmail.com | **Rockbridge** – Lynn Jones, lingon@embarqmail.com | **Shenandoah** – Robin McCall, rlmccall76@gmail.com | **Southside** – Frank R. Turner, frank_r_turner@hotmail.com | **Southwest Virginia** – Hugh Ferguson, hferguson@firstbank.com | **Tideneck** – Ronnie Gill, rgill@colonialfarmcredit.com | **Tidewater** – Chris Jennings, vt_hokie96@cox.net | **Tri-Cities** – F.W. Abernathy Jr., wanddean@aol.com | **Williamsburg** – Karen Rehm, krehmhokie@aol.com

OUT-OF-STATE:

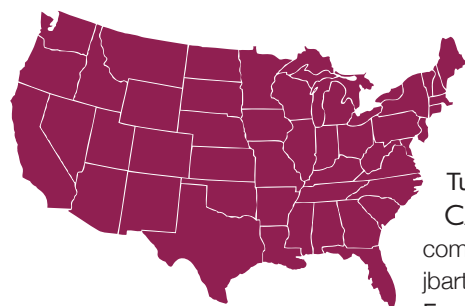
ALABAMA: Birmingham – Chrissy Behnke, christine.behnke@walterenergy.com | North Alabama – Mark Zesinger, mark@zesinger.com
ARIZONA: Flagstaff – **Volunteer needed** | Greater Phoenix – **Volunteer needed** | Tucson – Diane Manzini, dianemarievt@yahoo.com
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WEST VIRGINIA: Vandalia – Les O’Connor, lesoconnor@yahoo.com
WISCONSIN: Andrew Purner, purner@gmail.com



2014-15 chapter awards

Outstanding Chapter:



Alleghany Highlands, Atlanta, Baltimore, Central Florida, Charlotte, Denver, First State, Fredericksburg, Middle Tennessee, Minnesota, National Capital Region, New River Valley, Palmetto, Richmond, Roanoke Valley, San Antonio, Shenandoah, Southwest Virginia, Tidewater



Central Pennsylvania, Charleston, Chicago, Jacksonville, Kentuckiana, NC Triad, North Alabama, Seattle, Tampa Bay, Williamsburg



Columbia, Dallas/Fort Worth, East Tennessee, Emporia/Roanoke Rapids, Grand Strand/Myrtle Beach, Rockbridge, San Diego, South Florida, The Villages

Outstanding Chapter Event:

First State - Spring Fling Speaker Event and Gourmet Farm-to-Table Dinner

Outstanding Community Service Project:

Williamsburg - Big Event 2015

Outstanding Golf Tournament:

Southwest Virginia - Bow Tie Classic

Outstanding Fundraising Event:

Prince William - 8th Annual Virginia Tech Alumni Golf Tournament

Outstanding Chapter Marketing Program:

Richmond

Outstanding Networking Event:

Tidewater - Tidewater Hokie Business Network (Re)Launch Event

Innovation Award:

North Alabama - Virginia Tech vs. Ohio State Under the Stars

Broadening Alumni Engagement Award:

Denver - Young Alumni Stranahan's Distillery Tour

Most Improved Chapter:

Southwest Virginia

Outstanding New Chapter:

Augusta/Massanutten



Outstanding Chapter Volunteer:
Richard Ruckman (civil engineering '81), Shenandoah chapter



Outstanding Chapter Officer:
Amy Zielenbach (political science '98), Tampa Bay chapter

2016 travel tours



Majestic North America

Travel across the beautiful North American countryside with your fellow Hokies on one of our new domestic tours.

Southwest National Parks

June 5-14

Join us on a 10-day journey through a spectacular series of natural wonders in the American Southwest. At Bryce Canyon, Monument Valley, Zion National Park, and the Grand Canyon, admire the otherworldly formations famously photographed by Ansel Adams. Go river rafting along Glen Canyon, walk narrow Antelope Slot Canyon, marvel at the scenic vistas of Arches and Canyonlands national parks, and share a peaceful evening with Navajo storytelling.

Alaska Passages

July 25-Aug. 4

Experience Alaska's rugged beauty while sailing aboard Oceania Cruises' graceful Regatta. From Seattle, sail north to the picturesque Alaskan ports of Ketchikan, Wrangell, Juneau, Skagway, and Sitka; marvel at the magnificent Hubbard Glacier; and explore lovely Victoria, British Columbia.

Canadian Rockies Parks and Lodges

Aug. 11-17

World-class resorts and breathtaking scenery highlight this seven-day journey into the Canadian Rockies. Accompanied by two Orbridge expedition leaders, find adventure in the vast lands and magnificent ranges of the Banff, Yoho, and Jasper national parks, the crystal waters of Lake Louise and Maligne Lake, and the glacial masses of Icefields Parkway. Then, return to the region's premier resort lodgings, and enjoy the comforts these exceptional facilities have to offer.

The Magnificent Great Lakes

Aug. 22-31

Picture yourself surrounded by pristine islands draped in verdant wilderness and rocky shores caressed by sparkling blue waters. From Chicago to Montreal, cruise all five Great Lakes and the scenic St. Lawrence River aboard the new 210-guest MS Saint Laurent. Treat yourself to elegant amenities and stunning vistas as this luxurious ship takes you to charming islands and lakeside towns steeped in intriguing maritime history.



View our complete list of tours and book your travel at alumni.vt.edu/travel.

Columbarium

Several niches remain available in the first section of the Virginia Tech columbarium located near the Holtzman Alumni Center, and reservations are now being accepted for the second section. For more information, call Jay Whitlow at 540-231-6285 or visit alumni.vt.edu/columbarium.



Class Notes

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alumna profile



Offering refuge

Kelly Tallman Clements '88, '90 is second-in-command at the U.N. agency tasked with protecting an estimated 60 million refugees.

by MASON ADAMS

In 2015, as hundreds of thousands of refugees and vulnerable migrants fled their homes in war-torn regions and arrived in Europe, a Hokie dropped into the heart of the crisis.

In June 2015, Kelly Tallman Clements (French, international studies '88, M.U.A. '90) was named the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees' (UNHCR) deputy high commissioner, the No. 2 official in an international agency charged with protecting and assisting those who have been forcibly displaced.

"It's a challenging time to come into the agency," said Clements. "We're facing an unprecedented number of crises. There's the war in Syria, as well as crises elsewhere in South Sudan, Nigeria, Burundi, and Yemen, the last having a direct impact on the Horn of Africa, including Somalia. The Iraq situation continues to displace thousands of people, and there is continued conflict in Afghanistan. There's more displacement now than ever in recent history—an estimated 60 million people."

“

These are complex problems, so there's a lot more work to be done.”

—Andrew Clements '86, '92

Clements' new job moved her and her family—husband Andrew and two children—from Arlington, Virginia, to Geneva.

Andrew (biological sciences '86, Ph.D. anaerobic microbiology '92) is a senior technical advisor for the global health security and development unit in the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Bureau for Global Health, where he works to prevent future pandemics by reducing the opportunities in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East for animal viruses, such as avian influenza and Ebola, to spill over into people. Geneva's central location makes it easier for Kelly and Andrew to travel to locations where UNHCR and USAID provide assistance. In addition, Geneva's international schools have amplified the global perspective that Kelly and Andrew share with their children about the importance of education and the impact of world events on individuals.

"We feel very good about what we're doing," said Andrew. "It's challenging in lots of good and bad ways, and we feel like we're making an important contribution."

The links

Kelly Clements grew up in Maine, where her father ran the Canadian-American Center at the University of Maine, resulting in a steady stream of people from all over the world coming through her house. Interested in public service, Kelly looked to attend a university somewhat near Washington, D.C.

At Virginia Tech, the first day of classes in fall 1984 was abbreviated, so Andrew and Kelly separately had the idea to play golf. Meeting on the course for the first time, they finished the round together.

After obtaining her master's degree, Kelly was recruited by the Presidential Management Fellows program, designed to attract talented individuals straight out of graduate school to serve the public. After Andrew finished his Ph.D. at Tech, Kelly suggested that he look into an American Association for Advancement of Sciences program with a similar public-service aim for scientists and engineers. Their paths have placed the couple at the forefront of global issues.

"We feel like we're both making important contributions in improving people's lives," Andrew said. "But these are complex problems, so there's a lot more work to be done."

Kelly spent her second year in the program with UNHCR in Cox's Bazar, a southeast Bangladesh community where nearly 200,000 refugees had fled from persecution in Myanmar in the early 1990s. Kelly worked with women, men, and children who had "experienced horrible things in terms of persecution—no freedom of movement, no ability to practice their religion, forced to work, no education or health care for their children, all because of their ethnicity," she said. "This was a life-changing experience. The personal interactions with refugees at that time are something that still drives me today. It comes down to the difference we can make in individual lives until they can go home or find another solution to displacement. That was transformative for me."

She's toiled on behalf of refugees, displaced persons, and others in need of international help ever since, mostly through a 25-year career at the U.S. Department of State and now in her current post. During her latter years with the state department, Kelly was responsible for humanitarian issues in Asia and the Middle East, with a budget of more than \$3 billion to support global refugee and humanitarian programs and humanitarian policy.





"She's a force of nature, both driven and exuberant in what she does," said Heidi Munger Sung (M.U.R.P.L. '90), who participated in the same fellowship program that led Clements to work with refugees. "It can be a very trying and sad and desperate situation she works with every day. She travels to the refugee camps. She sees it all—but she's a very happy, upbeat, outgoing person."


The connection between the Clements' efforts to assist refugees and fight the transmission of infectious diseases and Virginia Tech's motto of *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve) is not lost on Professor Emeritus Jim Bohland, former vice president and executive director of National Capital Region operations and a research leader at the Global Forum for Urban and Regional Resilience.


"To me, one of the important things about the concept of *Ut Prosim* is obviously the service, but also in not drawing recognition to yourself. This is personified in Kelly," said Bohland, who met Kelly when she was an undergraduate and has remained in contact since. "You [serve] in a way not to bring honor to yourself, but to provide the service. Most of her life has really been dedicated to serving those who are in desperate straits, or at points of their lives where survival becomes an issue. That's a pretty thankless job. She's reached out across the world to help millions of people in need of assistance." □

Alumni, we want to hear what you've been doing. Mail career, wedding, birth, and death news to Class Notes, Virginia Tech Alumni Association, Holtzman Alumni Center (0102), 901 Prices Fork Rd., Blacksburg, VA 24061; email the news to fleets@vt.edu; or submit the news online at vtmag.vt.edu/submit-classnote.php, where photos may also be uploaded for consideration.

Alumni mailing addresses may be viewed online at alumni.vt.edu/directory by logging in with your Virginia Tech PID and password. For assistance, call 540-231-6285.


-  career accomplishments
-  weddings
-  births and adoptions
-  deceased

'33  **Robert G. Shipley** (DASC), Raleigh, N.C., 8/14/15.

'35  **James R. Gay** (BIOL), Lakewood, Pa., 7/20/15.

'37  **W.J. Blane** (CE), Roanoke, Va., 8/1/15.

'38  **Watson C. Warriner Sr.** (CHE), Wilmington, Del., 9/17/15.

'41  **Austin L. Payne Sr.** (ME), Fredericksburg, Va., 8/26/15.

'42  **Richard H. Hardesty III** (CHEM), Griffin, Ga., 8/3/15.

Royall C. Jones (AGED), Raleigh, N.C., 7/1/15.

Robert B. Lyon (CE), Purcellville, Va., 8/19/15.


R.D. "Ray" Mial (IE), Fredericksburg, Texas, 6/21/15.

Richard "Perky" M. Perkins (BAD '66, METE '66), Wytheville, Va., 10/3/15.


Reece A. Taylor Jr. (IE), Waynesboro, Va., 8/23/15.

'43  **Floyd E. Jennings** (IE '47), Newport News, Va., 8/28/14.

W.O. "Bill" Quesenberry (CE), Sun City Center, Fla., 6/29/15.

'44  **Richard L. Jefferies** (ME '47), Dallas, Texas, 6/25/15.


Revelle "Pete" M. Young (AGEC '46), Exmore, Va., 8/13/15.

'45  **J.T. "Jim" Fulton** (IE '48), Charlotte, N.C., 8/5/15.

Morton Goldmeier (BAD), Virginia Beach, Va., 8/25/15.


Herman "Duff" L. Holbrook (FW '48), McClellanville, S.C., 7/17/15.


Douglas C. Leckie (BAD), Front Royal, Va., 7/16/15.

'46  **Guy R. Beale Jr.** (BAD), Virginia Beach, Va., 7/25/15.

John R. Bronaugh (ME '47), Henderson, Nev., 7/11/15.

Robert R. Morrissette (ASE '45), Richmond, Va., 7/1/15.

'47  **Pauline "Polly" L. Jarvis** (GHEC '53), Radford, Va., 7/15/15.

'48  **H. Clair Sykes** (ACCT '49), Roanoke, Va., 7/28/15.

John H. Wright (BAD), Goochland, Va., 8/22/15.

'49  **Herbert L. Bregman** (ME), Virginia Beach, Va., 7/12/15.


Daniel W. Flippen Jr. (BAD), Kirkwood, Mo., 6/16/15.

Early R. Hartley (IE), Wilmington, N.C., 8/18/15.

'50  **Donald D. Smith** (EE), Newport News, Va., 11/7/14.

Harold E. Wilhelm (AGED), Troutville, Va., 9/13/15.

Albert F. Woodhouse (ME '52), Fort Myers, Fla., 6/27/15.

'51  **Robert G. Bass** (AGE '52), Chesterfield, Va., 8/2/15.


Milton T. Herndon (CHE), Huntington, W.Va., 6/27/15.

David G. Hurlbert (CE), Baton Rouge, La., 8/4/15.

W.O. "Bill" McDaniel Jr. (ME), Midlothian, Va., 8/13/15.

Ronald A. Pruitt (IE), Burlington, N.C., 8/1/15.

Frederick W. Sherman (ME '52), Orange, Va., 7/6/15.

'52  **James L. Lawrence Sr.** (GE), Marshall, Va., 6/23/15.

Charles L. Overstreet (ME), Bristol, Tenn., 7/15/15.

Robert B. Puckett (CE), Roanoke, Va., 9/20/15.

'53  **Paul Bargamin III** (BAD), Richmond, Va., 6/16/15.

Alvin G. Dove (BED '55), Radford, Va., 8/1/15.

Thomas D. Frith Jr. (BAD '56), Blacksburg, Va., 8/17/15.


Mildred M. Heimlich (EDBS), Roanoke, Va., 5/25/15.

William H. Lassiter Jr. (BAD), Sunbury, N.C., 8/30/15.


John W. Mayhugh (POUL), Warrenton, Va., 7/27/15.

Robert S. Simpson (BAD), Roanoke, Va., 5/25/15.

C.J. "Larry" Spector (PHYS), San Jose, Calif., 6/20/15.

'54  **Paul M. Saunders Sr.** (AGE), Piney River, Va., authored a book, "Down on the Farm."


Minetree "Buck" Shelton (BAD), Fairfax, Va., 7/17/15.


'55  **Floyd E. Jarvis Jr.** (BIOL '56), Radford, Va., 5/21/15.

H.E. "Gene" Keith III (AGED '56), Willis, Va., 7/25/15.

Robert S. Luttrell (CHE, CHE '56), Martinsville, Va., 9/25/15.

Gerald F. Wilkinson (ME), Richmond, Va., 7/14/15.


'56  **Richard H. L. Chichester** (DASC), Fredericksburg, Va., was inducted into the Virginia Livestock Hall of Fame.

'57  **Lawrence K. Baker** (IE), Gate City, Va., 7/12/15.

Carlton E. Combs Jr. (ARE, ARE '61), Arlington, Va., 10/3/14.

Lawrence V. Marshall Sr. (GSC), Floyd, Va., 9/17/15.

Lewis A. Micou Jr. (HORT), Westfield Center, Ohio, 7/7/15.

'58  **Donald L. Campbell Jr.** (BAD '59, BAD '62), Danville, Va., 8/6/15.

William R. Martin (BAD), Henrico, Va., 7/27/15.

Robert G. McCoy Sr. (EDVT), Wytheville, Va., 9/9/15.

August "Frank" Teske Jr. (ANSC '63), Blacksburg, Va., 9/1/15.


'59  **Roland H. Canada** (METE), Blacksburg, Va., 8/20/15.

Frank N. Cowan Sr. (BAD), North Chesterfield, Va., 8/28/15.


Robert D. Higgins (RS), Richmond, Va., 8/1/15.

Charles R. Smith (BAD '58), Roanoke, Va., 7/7/15.

Harvey L. Williams III (IE), Mathews, Va., 6/30/15.

'60  **William N. Krause** (EM, EM '65), The Villages, Fla., 6/16/15.

Thomas S. Weaver (CE), Lynchburg, Va., 8/22/15.

'61  **Maurice G. Cook** (AGRN '62), Raleigh, N.C., was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the National Association of Conservation Districts' Southeast Region.

Talmage "T.D." Foster Jr. (BAD '64), Yorktown, Va., 6/30/15.

Wendell D. Hensley (METE, METE), Blacksburg, Va., 9/20/15.

Charles E. Horner Jr. (EE), Studley, Va., 7/22/15.


William F. Ward (CE), Vancouver, Wash., 8/5/15.

'62  **Donald G. Kelly** (ME '64), Alexandria, Va., co-authored a book, "VA, WVA - Selected Poems."

Lolene Hodges Corron (BED), Moneta, Va., 7/31/15.

Steven H. Hatfield (MATH), Alexandria, La., 8/29/15.

Claude R. Keckler (ASE '63), Georgetown, Texas, 8/17/15.


'63  **James M. Gray** (FW, FW '65), Dunn, N.C., was named a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters.

William L. Bradley (BAD), Rock Hill, S.C., 8/2/15.


George W. Fonseca (EE), Mansfield, Ohio, 5/18/15.


Joseph C. Love Jr. (BAD), Midlothian, Va., 8/7/15.


John N. Pratt (EE), Morristown, Tenn., 8/27/15.

'64  **S. Zane Pinckney** (MATH, AOE '66), Poquoson, Va., 8/7/15.

Bland A. Stein (METE), Newport News, Va., 8/31/15.


'65  **David L. Jordan** (CE), Richardson, Texas, 8/23/15.

'66  **Ray C. Ellington** (BAD), Ruffin, N.C., 8/14/15.

'67  **John C. Hrapchak** (ARE), Surprise, Ariz., retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and received the Commanders Award for exceptional public service.

Frank L. Abbott (BAD), Midlothian, Va., 8/20/15.

C. David King (CE), Knoxville, Tenn., 7/22/15.

'68  **L.M. "Lu" Merritt Jr.** (MGT), Blacksburg, Va., retired as senior director of development for intercollegiate athletics at Virginia Tech.

Six Things You Didn't Know About the Beach Boys

In 1992, Jim Murphy quit his speechwriting job to commute 600 miles each week to Virginia Tech to become a veterinarian at the age of 40. A resident of Bowie, Maryland, and a lifelong fan of the Beach Boys, Murphy (D.V.M. '97) spent eight years researching and writing "Becoming the Beach Boys, 1961-1963," which looks at how five teenagers formed an iconic band now in its sixth decade.

1 None of the original band members—brothers Brian, Dennis, and Carl Wilson; a cousin, Mike Love; and Brian's high school classmate Al Jardine—had formal musical training.

2 Because Al didn't see a future in music, he quit the band in mid-February 1962, pursuing a pre-dental curriculum.

3 By early March 1962, the band had replaced Al with David Marks, the Wilsons' 13-year-old neighbor. At 15 years old, however, David got into an argument with the Wilsons' father, Murry, and quit the band. In the 1990s, David periodically appeared with the band, rejoining it in 2012 for a 50th anniversary tour.

William I. Barnard (ECON), Sanford, N.C., 8/5/15.

Robert Felix (ARCH '73), Leeds, United Kingdom, 7/30/15.

Wilson "Ragan" Rodgers (STAT), Paris, Texas, 6/26/15.

Samuel D. Senter (DASC, FST '70), Athens, Ga., 7/7/15.

Charles E. Webb (ASE), California, Md., 8/9/15.


Angela M. Wong (ENGL), Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., 7/12/15.

'69  **Wolfgang F. Preiser** (ARCH), Scottsdale, Ariz., authored his 20th book, "Architecture Beyond Criticism: Expert Judgment and Performance Evaluation."

William T. Cook (POUL, GEN '72), Dayton, Ohio, 8/17/15.

Ronald C. Evans (BAD '70, BAD '72), Rocky Mount, Va., 8/6/15.

Yan-Pui Samuel To (CHE, CHE '70, CE '74), Beltsville, Md., 4/12/15.


'70  **J. Alan Lowe** (MATH), Roanoke, Va., 9/8/15.

Ronald E. Shuey (ACCT '72, ACCT '72), Charlottesville, Va., 8/23/15.


'71  **William W. Bolling** (FW), Lebanon, Va., 8/25/15.

George S. Goodman Jr. (MGT), Richmond, Va., 8/26/15.

Robert C. Woehle Jr. (EE), North Chesterfield, Va., 8/17/15.

'72  **Larry W. Howard** (ACCT '73), Roanoke, Va., 7/14/15.


Allen R. Ritchie (AGE), Harrisonburg, Va., 8/15/15.

'73  **Oliver J. Cromer Jr.** (EDCI), Salem, Va., 9/6/15.

Thomas J. Schneider (BAD '74), Midlothian, Va., 7/28/15.

S. Leslie Harvey (MAED), Galax, Va., 7/23/15.

Daniel M. Linn (MICR '76), Newark, Del., 8/3/15.


'76  **Richard L. Boitnott** (FW, FW '77, ESM '85), Poquoson, Va., received a Silver Snoopy Award from NASA's astronaut corps for his work at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton Roads.

David R. Lohr (CHE), Moneta, Va., was appointed by Gov. Terry McAuliffe to serve on the A.L. Philpott Manufacturing Extension Partnership's Board of Trustees.

Anna L. White Cheatwood (ELED), Athens, W.Va., 7/7/15.

Keith A. Levinson (CHEM '75), Waldorf, Md., 8/10/15.

Eleanor Seidel Woodard (CS), Wilmington, Del., 4/21/15.

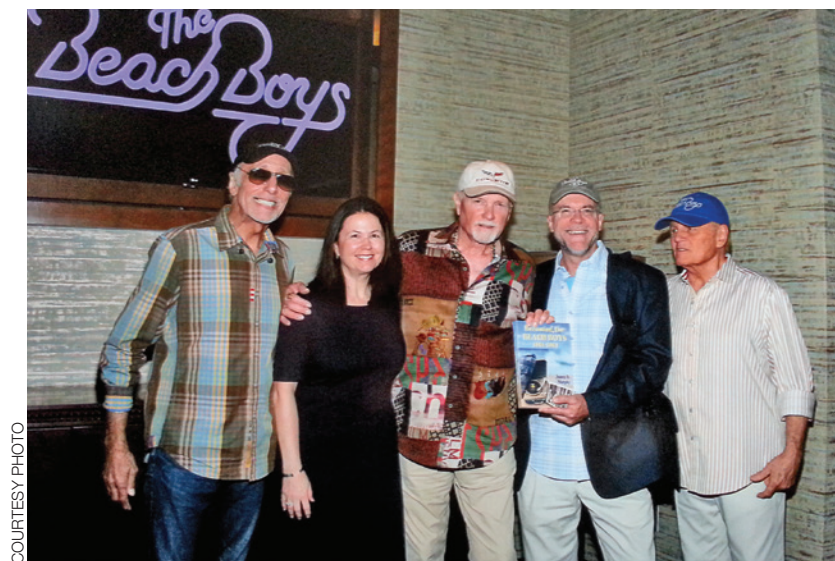
'75  **Frank "Skip" F. Bartol** (DASC), Auburn, Ala., has collaborated with a Hokie colleague to teach a global online course in reproductive physiology.

Denton O. Baumarger (FIW '77), Vining, Minn., 1/11/15.

Keith D. Blough (BAD), Oak Ridge, N.C., 11/25/14.

James L. Hale Jr. (ACCT), Speedwell, Va., 8/9/15.

Jonathan L. Jones (PAD), Valdese, N.C., 7/4/15.



(From left to right) David Marks, Bernadette Murphy, Mike Love, Jim Murphy '97, and Bruce Johnston.

4 In April 1962, the band recorded a demonstration record of "Surfin' Safari," "409," and "Lonely Sea," which landed them a 7-year recording contract with Capitol Records.

5 In May 1962, the Capitol contract had to be signed by Murry Wilson, the Wilson brothers' father, because Mike, at 21, was the only band member who wasn't a minor.

6 In October 1963, frustrated by the rigors of organic chemistry, Al happily accepted an offer to rejoin the band—effectively one of the greatest second chances in rock 'n' roll history.



"We weren't interested in a traditional wedding. We danced down the aisle to 'Pump It' by the Black Eyed Peas. John and I wrote the entire ceremony, which was full of adventure and laughter—which is how I would describe our relationship."
—Ashley Winstead

Ashley Zealon Winstead '08 and John Dean Winstead '04, Merrimack, N.H., 07/28/15.

"Hollis is at least the eighth generation in my family to have the middle name Ellen—and I promised my great-grandmother I would continue the tradition."
—Leslie Hawkins



Leslie Hawkins '04, Winchester, Va., a daughter, Hollis Ellen, 5/25/15.



"Ella (top) has a gorgeous dimple and a contagious belly laugh, and Sydney is itsy-bitsy with a personality that lights up a room. They love to hold hands and steal each other's toys."
—Kim Sink

Kimberly Trevillian Sink '09, Chester, Va., twin daughters, Ella and Sydney, 03/30/15.

'78 **Thomas L. Fugate** (COMM), Hiltons, Va., authored a book, "Tears for My Father: Trying to Stay Sane and Deal with Alzheimer's," and self-published a novel, "Cigarettes for Two."

Stephen J. Long (FW), Richmond, Va., retired from the Virginia Department of Transportation as an environmental administrator after a 37-year career.

Robert A. Barusefski (EE), Haymarket, Va., 5/15/15.

Jessica L. Stegall Wren (SOC), Dallas, Texas, 4/4/15.

'79 **Allen F. Harper** (ANSC, ANSC '82, ANSC '92), Franklin, Va., was inducted into the Virginia Livestock Hall of Fame.

Sharon L. McCloskey (BIOL), Radford, Va., was conferred the title of senior associate athletics director emerita by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors.

Mary Leigh Wolfe (AGE, AGE '81), Blacksburg, Va., is the 2015-16 president of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers.

Dock D. Atkinson (FW), Roanoke, Va., 7/1/15.

Catherine E. Varner King (LASC), Richmond, Va., 7/14/15.

Don R. Nichols (EDCI), Richmond, Va., 5/21/15.

'80 **Ronald A. Hodge** (MKTG), Great Falls, Va., co-authored a book, "Know-How: Experience, Expertise and Execution."

Christopher C. Kohler (FIW), Hertford, N.C., was named a Fellow by the American Fisheries Society.

Christopher C. Kohler (FIW), Hertford, N.C., authored a suspense novel, "Cracked Island."

John K. Tolmie (MGT), Reisterstown, Md., completed a six-day climb to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Jean Miller Fore (CTRA), Powhatan, Va., 7/31/15.

'81 **Paul J. Clarke** (COMM), Sioux Falls, S.D., is the building official and code enforcement officer for the city of Brandon, South Dakota.

Paul R. Johansen (FIW), Charleston, W.Va., was named the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' wildlife resources section chief.

James A. Lizzi (CE), Costa Mesa, Calif., retired as a registered traffic engineer after a 33-year career.

Brian R. Murphy (FIW), New Castle, Va., was named among the inaugural class of Fellows for the American Fisheries Society.

Harry A. McClaren (PSYC), Quincy, Fla., 7/27/15.

Charles A. Zintner (ME), Stafford, Va., 7/9/15.

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'83 **Suzanne Beamer Bohnert** (COMM), Arlington, Va., wrote a book, "Game-Day Youth: Learning Football's Lingo," that earned an honorable mention for nonfiction from the Readers' Favorite International Book Awards.

Steven H. Bullard (FOR), Mathiston, Miss., was elected to the Sustainable Forest Initiative's Board of Directors.

Azim Eskandarian (ME), Blacksburg, Va., is the mechanical engineering department head at Virginia Tech.

Carlton D. Everhart II (AGED), Cana, Va., a general, took command of the U.S. Air Force's Air Mobility Command.

William E. Kelso (FIW), Baton Rouge, La., received the Excellence in Fisheries Education Award from the American Fisheries Society.

Mary Kathryn Burkey Owens (ENGL), Chesterfield, Va., was named by her peers to the 2016 edition of "The Best Lawyers in America."

Hindsight

Altruistic author reflects

“Although I wrote ‘Little Boy Courageous and The Magic Hat’ almost 15 years ago as a gift to my two nieces, earlier this year I decided to turn the story into an e-book. There were obstacles—copyrighting the material, developing the illustrations, and creating a website—but if you believe in the project, you can’t be dissuaded by challenges, regardless of how large they may seem. Overcoming them provides the greatest opportunity for growth.”

—**Mark Rosia** (finance '91), a finance manager at IBM, is donating 80 percent of the book's proceeds to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. For more information, visit littleboy-courageous.com.

Eric D. Dinan (ACCT), West Chester, Ohio, 2/23/15.

William A. Isaacs (PSCI), Somerset, Ky., 8/22/15.

Douglas W. Newman (EE), Clyde, N.C., 6/5/15.

Keith L. Newport (ME), Lillington, N.C., 8/14/15.

'84 **Gaynor A. Richardson Flynn** (BIOL), Chesapeake Beach, Md., is the quality assurance coordinator for a laboratory at Children's National Medical Center in Maryland.

V. Randall Tinsley (FIW), Sumnerfield, N.C., was named by his peers to the 2016 edition of "The Best Lawyers in America" in the fields of environmental law and litigation.

Ulysses Cameron (EDAD '78, EDAD), Pembroke Pines, Fla., 7/28/15.

'85 **William E. Berlin** (HIST), Arlington, Va., is an attorney and shareholder for the Hall, Render, Killian, Heath, and Lyman law firm.

Elizabeth C. Tseng Bourgeois (FW, FOR '87), Summerville, S.C., received the Society of American Foresters' John A. Beale Memorial Award.

D. Brent Richardson (EE), Concord, N.C., was elected as a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

David T. Dietz (HIST), Seekonk, Mass., 8/26/15.

Gregory A. Scott (BIOL), Covington, Va., 8/1/15.

'86 **Tracie Edmond** (ACCT), San Antonio, Texas, authored a book, "Tri-Sector Collaborations, The Benefits of the Three Sectors Working Together."

Brian E. Smith (AGRN), Steinhatchee, Fla., authored a book, "Reeling in Time with Fish Tales: Mono Fulfillment."

William "Buddy" W. Clark (ME, ME '88, ME '91), Wexford, Pa., was awarded the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' Robert E. Abbott Award.

Bettina K. Ring (FW), Keswick, Va., was elected to the Sustainable Forest Initiative's Board of Directors.

'87 **Lisa Robinson Deaton** (FW), Providence Forge, Va., was named the Virginia Department of Forestry's area forester for the Gloucester region.

Graydon A. Elliott Jr. (BIOL), Plainfield, N.J., 7/11/15.

'88 **Roger N. Morris** (MKED), Massillon, Ohio, was named an assistant professor for educational leadership at Malone University.

Paul E. Rossler (IEOR, ISE '91), Sand Springs, Okla., was named by his peers to the 2016 Edition of "The Best Lawyers in America."

'89 **Katrina E. Workman Berger** (HIST), Haymarket, Va., is special agent in charge for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations office in Dallas.

Christopher G. Wise (EDPE), Blacksburg, Va., was named the assistant vice president for student affairs at Virginia Tech.

'90 **Todd B. Kelly** (ENGL), Blacksburg, Va., co-authored a book, "VA, WVA - Selected Poems."

Scott F. Schenkel (FIN), Los Gatos, Calif., is the chief financial officer of eBay.

Matthew M. Winston Jr. (MKTG), Athens, Ga., was named the senior associate vice president of alumni relations at Virginia Tech.

'91 **Kathy E. Flann** (ENGL), Annandale, Va., authored a collection of short stories, "Get a Grip," and won the George Garrett Award.

Amy J. Kelly Ostrander (PSYC), Blacksburg, Va., co-authored a book, "VA, WVA - Selected Poems."

Mark T. Rosia (FIN), Vienna, Va., released his first children's e-book, "Little Boy Courageous and The Magic Hat."

Antonio Muniz-Olan (EE) and Cynthia Muniz, Orlando, Fla., 5/7/15.

'92 **Kelvin Gilchrist** (EDD VOED), Olympia Fields, Ill., authored a book, "Inventions and Discoveries by People of Color: Prehistoric to Today."

'93 **Edward P. Chamberlayne** (CE, CE '02, ISE '11), Falls Church, Va., is commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Baltimore district.

'94 **Adrienne L. Bennett** (PSCI), Norfolk, Va., was appointed by Gov. Terry McAuliffe as a member of the Virginia Parole Board.

Gina C. Felter (FW), York, Pa., was named principal of the Carroll County Outdoor School in Maryland.

Jennifer A. Pooler Gray (ENGL, ENGL '96), Saint Simons Island, Ga., is an associate professor of English at the College of Coastal Georgia.

Alice V. Osborn (FIN), Raleigh, N.C., authored a book of poetry, "Heroes without Capes."

Kelley S. Webb Roy (GEOL), Manzanita, Ore., authored her second book, "Portland Made."

Rochelle Lenz McCall (MKTG), Shady Side, Md., 1/31/15.

Philip J. Sabino (MSCI), Raleigh, N.C., 8/3/15.

'95 **Anna M. Zajick-Wagemann** (SOC), Fayetteville, Ark., is the chair of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Arkansas.

'96 **Sven B. Shockey** (ARCH), Washington, D.C., joined the board of directors of SmithGroupJJR, where he is a design principal.

Annette Sysel (VMSC), Guelph, Ontario, Canada was named the 2015 American Hero Veterinarian by the American Humane Association.

Eoin J. Wrafter (URPL), Poughkeepsie, N.Y., is commissioner of the Department of Planning and Development in Dutchess County, N.Y.

Joseph L. Salmon (EDCI, EDCL '12), Roanoke, Va., 8/3/52.

'97 **Sudipta Sarangi** (ECAS, ECAS '00), Blacksburg, Va., is a professor and head of the Department of Economics in the College of Science.

Kevin L. Bower (HORT), Portland, Ore., a daughter, 7/12/15.

'98 **Andrea "Nikki" N. Phelps** (BCHM), Gillette, Wyo., was selected as the Hokie Hero for the football game versus Furman University.

Bonnie-Elizabeth Fertitta Powers (PSYC, COMM), Vienna, Va., is the director of legal and practice support at Wiley Rein LLP in Washington, D.C.

Peter J. Hohm (HIDM) and **Elizabeth Darnell Hohm** (BIOL '01), Falls Church, Va., a son, 6/18/15.

'00 **Alice T. Spradlin Mindak** (AAEC), Hillsboro, Ore., was chosen as the Arthritis Foundation's Adult Honoree for the 2015 Walk to Cure Arthritis.

'01 **Shawn A. Baker** (FORS, FOR '03), Richmond, Va., is the director of forest operations and research for Forisk Consulting.

'02 **Timothy L. Belcher** (CE), Centreville, Va., received the national 2015 Young Member of the Year Award from the American Society of Highway Engineers.



KAYLA CLEMENTS '11

Fashionista

A runway show in New York City represents a milestone in the life of any fashion designer. In September 2015, Kelsy Dominick (apparel, housing, and resource management; international studies '13), of Haymarket, Virginia, got that opportunity. For Couture Fashion Week, held during New York Fashion Week, Dominick completely overhauled her collection, taking her cues from a passage in Proverbs that describes a "noble woman" wearing purple. After continuing to tweak her designs up until the night before the show, she took her position behind the scenes for the evening show, which was staged in Times Square's Crowne Plaza.

"There wasn't even much time to think [during the show]. It was just 'do.' But there was that split-second moment before all the models walked out on the runway and stayed there for the final presentation, that bit was nerve-wracking. When you're about to walk out and see everybody, that moment I'm always going to remember. I remember savoring that walk. You take your time, you walk out, and you enjoy everyone's company and the support you got."

Encore:

The Fashion Merchandising Design Society at Virginia Tech presents a fashion showcase each spring. To see a video, visit vtmag.vt.edu.

Michael J. Bortner (CHE, CHE '03), Blacksburg, Va., is a chemical engineering department faculty member at Virginia Tech for the 2015-16 year.

Holly Lynne McKinley Schmidt (BIT), Herndon, Va., earned a master of legal studies degree from West Virginia University and received the National Outstanding Junior Member Award from the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

Andrew R. Krohn (AE) and **Jamie R. Haynes** (COMM '07), California, Md., 9/19/15.

Gina C. Francesconi Billeter (MKTG), Jacksonville, Fla., a son, 10/1/15.

James A. Disney (APSC), Wake Forest, N.C., a daughter, 4/21/15.

Edward J. Manlucu (ECON), Bristow, Va., a daughter, 2/4/15.

'03 **Melvin F. Soria Jr.** (IDS), Perry Point, Md., received a MTV Music Video Awards' Best Rock Video Award for directing a music video.

Charles M. Thomas Jr. (CE), Seaford, Va., is a partner with the Structures Group in Williamsburg, Va.

Christina M. Kull Martens (ENSC, ESEN '05, MUS '06) and **Lyonel A. Martens** (OE '05, AE '05), Redondo Beach, Calif., a son, 6/12/15.

'04 **Emily A. Sarver** (MINE, MINE '05, GSCR '10, CE '10), Blacksburg, Va., has received one of the first two nationwide career development grants from the Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration.

Eric J. LaRocque (CE, CE '07), Vienna, Va., 7/31/15.

'05 **Sarah E. Lucas** (SPAN), O'Fallon, Ill., was selected as the Hokie Hero for the football game versus the University of Pittsburgh.

Vanessa E. Teter (FST, FST '06) and **Christopher Hall**, Meriden, Conn., 5/23/15.

Amber K. Stewart-Humphries (ME, BAD '06) and **David W. Humphries** (ME '06), Kingsport, Tenn., a son, 5/28/15.

Ryan D. Eaves (ENSC), Hillsborough, N.C., a daughter, 8/31/15.

Leslie E. Funkhouser Hawkins (AAEC, EDCT '05), Winchester, Va., a daughter, 5/25/15.

Amanda H. Harlan (ART), White Lake, Mich., a son, 7/8/15.



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'06 **Christopher D. Horsfall** (MATH), Universal City, Texas, was selected as the Hokie Hero for the football game versus East Carolina University.

Amanda L. Zehner (PSCI), Alexandria, Va., started her own business, Living Threads Company, providing textiles to support Central American families and women's cooperatives.

Adam M. Sayre (FIN) and **Susan W. Sayre** (COMM '08), Bethesda, Md., 7/11/15.

Jessica R. Wilson (MGT) and **Kenny Brinckman**, Charleston, S.C., 7/14/15.

Lauren F. Fortenberry (ENGL, EDCI '08, PH '12) and **Ryan C. Fortenberry** (CHEM '12), Statesboro, Ga., a daughter, 7/31/15.

Bryan T. Gassenmeyer (ISE) and **Lauren A. Gallagher Gassenmeyer** (PSYC), Herndon, Va., a son, 8/10/15.

'07 **William N. Alexander** (DOE, DAE, OCE '09, AE '11), Radford, Va., is an aerospace and ocean engineering department faculty member at Virginia Tech for the 2015-16 year.

Rebecca L. Brady (ARCH), Raleigh, N.C., co-founded UPstudio.

Amanda N. Stanley (SOC), Bedford, Va., was named among the top 20 under 40 professionals in Lynchburg Living magazine.

Amy Roeder Norris (MKTG), Charlotte, N.C., a son, 3/5/15.

'08 **Jacob R. Grohs** (ESM, EM '09, EDCI '12, GSCR '15, EDCI '15), Christiansburg, Va., is an engineering education department faculty member at Virginia Tech for the 2015-16 year.

Richard S. Hutton (PSYC, MATH, MATH '09), Carrboro, N.C., is a Department of Psychology and Human Development lecturer at Vanderbilt Peabody College.

Manisha P. Patel (ECAS, HIST), Greensboro, N.C., is an associate attorney for Ward Black Law.

David R. Raymond (CPE), Blacksburg, Va., is the deputy director of Virginia Tech's Information Technology Security Laboratory.

Tiffany A. Francis Reaves (MKTG), Williamsburg, Va., was named to Hampton Roads Inside Business Magazine's Top 40 Under 40 list.

Marc A. Greene (ISE, ISE '09) and **Rachel M. Goldman**, Arlington, Va., 5/24/15.

Dawn C. Becker Spitzer (ENGL) and **Jason M. Spitzer** (AAEC), Smithsburg, Md., a daughter, 5/5/15.

Anthony H. Swope (AT), Orange, Va., a daughter, 5/31/15.

'09 **Sean J. Collins** (BAD), Blacksburg, Va., was named the director of the Innovate living-learning community in the Pamplin College of Business's Apex Systems Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Erinn E. Higgins (APSC, APSC '11), Mechanicville, N.Y., is the first woman to serve as a steward for the New York Racing Association.

Bryan L. Spear (BIOL), Clarksville, Tenn., was selected as the Hokie Hero for the football game versus Ohio State University.

Stephanie C. Daly Boinet (FST) and **Olivier Boinet**, Annandale, Va., 6/13/15.

Christy N. Winebarger Budwin (FIN) and **Andrew C. Budwin** (CS '11), Christiansburg, Va., 7/11/15.

Dane P. Evans (AE) and **Nicole Aylor Evans** (ACIS '11, ACIS '12), High Point, N.C., 6/27/15.

Kailey E. Seibert (ACIS, MGT) and **Zachary B. Schoenholtz** (ACIS '10), Arlington, Va., 6/5/15.

Brian E. Smith (AE) and **Kelsey L. Smith**, Rosedale, Md., 5/24/15.

William D. Fairchild (IDST) and **Sara Lichtenstein Fairchild** (PSYC '10, EDCI '11), Alexandria, Va., a son, 8/18/15.

Kimberly T. Sink (FIN), Chester, Va., twin girls, 3/30/15.

'10 **Karen E. D'Angelo** (MKTG), Roanoke, Va., was named a state program officer for the National and Community Service's Tennessee office.

John A. DeLaura Jr. (HIST) was selected as the Hokie Hero for the football game versus Purdue University.

Joseph J. DiCocco (HIST), Pensacola, Fla., was selected as the Hokie Hero for the football game versus the University of Pittsburgh.

Andrew R. Kemper (BMES), Blacksburg, Va., is a biomedical engineering and mechanics department faculty member at Virginia Tech for the 2015-16 year.

Brendan E. Wallace (FIN) and **Katherine Ferguson Wallace** (HNFE, HNFE '11), Arlington, Va., 6/27/15.



BY KIM BASSLER, UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR. IMAGE COURTESY OF LIBRARIES' SPECIAL COLLECTIONS; MORE CAN BE FOUND AT IMAGEBASE.LIB.VT.EDU.

16 years ago, the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies was founded, with James I. "Bud" Robertson Jr. as director. The center and the libraries' Special Collections continue to preserve Civil War history today with rare books, manuscripts, letters, and diaries.

35 years ago, the Black Student Organization began meeting to celebrate diversity on campus.

45 years ago, before women could join the Corps of Cadets, the Angel Flight, a sister organization of the U.S. Air Force ROTC, was formed.

105 years ago, cadets participated in a tradition that still stands today: an epic snowball fight during the first snowfall of the year.

'11 **Jacob W. Smith** (HIST) and **Stephanie M. Smith**, Toast, N.C., 8/30/15.

'12 **Matthew D. Hillman** (FIW), Brewster, Mass., was named the manager of the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge on Cape Cod.

Doray A. Sitko (EDPE), Austin, Texas, is a nationally certified emergency medical technician and a Texas emergency medical technician.

'13 **Kelsy E. Dominick** (IS, AHRM), Haymarket, Va., had her first fashion show in New York's Couture Fashion Week.

Walter C. Lee Jr. (ISE, ENGE '15), Blacksburg, Va., is an engineering education department faculty member at Virginia Tech for the 2015-16 year.

'14 **Jennifer H. Culhane** (LSAE), Blacksburg, Va., is the director of first-year academic initiatives in Virginia Tech's Office of First-Year Experiences.

Carling M. Sitterley (VM, PH '15), Blacksburg, Va., is the assistant director of admissions and student services

for the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine.

'15 **Nicholas R. Coates** (ARCH), Blacksburg, Va., received the 2015 SOM Prize, a travel and research fellowship.

Four 2015 graduates—**Robert O. Boys** (ISE), **Adam J. Lis** (MINE), **Kevin J. Markle** (MSE), and **Lane A. Southard** (ME)—have joined CDE Global, a global supplier of washing equipment for quarries and mines. Headquartered in Ireland, the company is expanding into the U.S. market.

obituaries

faculty/staff

Lynn A. Nystrom, the longtime director of news and external relations for the College of Engineering (COE) and a mentor to hundreds of students and alumni, died Dec. 3, 2015. Nystrom wrote thousands of stories promoting the research, discoveries, breakthroughs, and personalities of COE faculty, staff, alumni, and students. Through her

work, Nystrom helped raise the college's profile, as evident in scores of metrics, such as U.S. News & World Report rankings. Nystrom mentored the Virginia Tech Student Engineers' Council, a nonprofit, self-funded group run by undergraduates; and served as advisor to The Collegiate Times, Virginia Tech's independent student newspaper; and the Engineer's Forum, a student publication.

David L. Russell, a professor of mathematics with the College of Science, died Oct. 4, 2015. Russell's research focused on ordinary and partial differential equations, systems theory, elasticity, mathematical modeling, and control theory. He joined the faculty in 1988 as a full professor, moving to Tech from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Russell published nearly 130 papers and journal articles between 1964 and 2014.

Manfred Ludwig "Fred" Spengler, associate professor emeritus of the Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE), died Oct. 12, 2015. Joining Virginia Tech in 1975, Spengler, through Virginia Cooperative Extension, assisted manufacturing entities with

industrial engineering problems and taught short courses in industry. In 1994, he joined the ISE department, where he revamped the Methods Engineering and Work Measurement course and advised numerous student teams in the senior design course. He retired in 2000.

Herman Warren, a professor emeritus of plant pathology, physiology, and weed science who joined the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 1989, died Nov. 3, 2015. He was recognized nationally and internationally as an authority on corn and sorghum diseases, co-authoring 87 referred publications, 46 abstracts, 11 book chapters, and 17 technical publications. In the classroom he was a dedicated teacher of genetics, specializing in interactions between hosts and parasites.

students

Mark Slough, a sophomore majoring in aerospace engineering from Springfield, Va., died Oct. 8, 2015.

The future is **HERE**



For Bobby Hollingsworth, medical research is personal.

The junior majoring in chemical engineering, biochemistry, and chemistry is drawn to studying diseases with an eye toward new therapies that will not only extend lives, but save them altogether.

His ambitious determination is driven by the loss of two special

people—his grandmother, who died from cancer, and a nanny, who cared for him while his family lived in Botswana, and who later died from AIDS.

Supported by the **University Honors Class of 1954 Fellowship**, this summer Hollingsworth will return to Botswana for the first time since his childhood. While there, he will work at a health clinic and research HIV. Without the

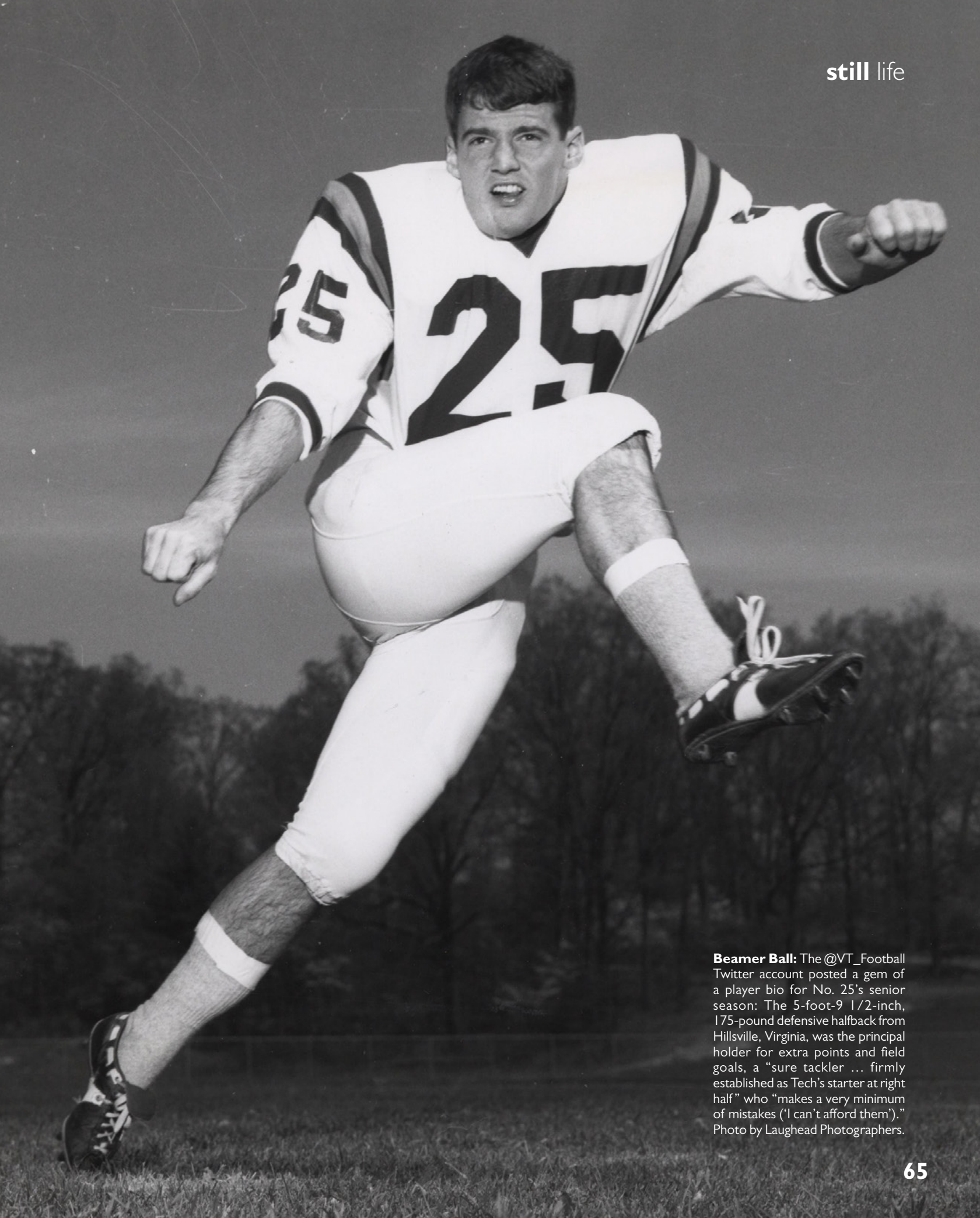
fellowship, his trip across the world would not be possible.

Visit <http://bit.ly/vt-hollingsworth> for more of Bobby's story.

To learn more about how philanthropy makes an impact at Virginia Tech, or to make your own gift, visit givingto.vt.edu.

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Beamer Ball: The @VT_Football Twitter account posted a gem of a player bio for No. 25's senior season: The 5-foot-9 1/2-inch, 175-pound defensive halfback from Hillsville, Virginia, was the principal holder for extra points and field goals, a "sure tackler ... firmly established as Tech's starter at right half" who "makes a very minimum of mistakes ('I can't afford them')." Photo by Laughead Photographers.



2016

*“A Silver and Gold Celebration:
Treasuring the Legacy of Black
Graduates at Virginia Tech”*

BLACK ALUMNI REUNION

This reunion marks the 50th anniversary of the first black women students at Virginia Tech and the 25th anniversary of the Black Cultural Center. Join us to celebrate, socialize, and network with students, faculty, and alumni.

- Black Cultural Center 25th anniversary reception
- Alumni/student networking
- Alumni awards ceremony and gala
- Spring game tailgate

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*For more information or to register, visit inclusive.vt.edu/alumni.
Advance registration is required; no on-site registration.*

For volunteer or sponsorship opportunities, contact Latanya Walker at latanya@vt.edu.