



HISTORICALLY SPEAKING...

Welcome to the Class of 2003

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the Class of 2003 (or sooner if you are a transfer student). We hope you had a pleasant experience during summer orientation and have a class schedule you can live with (not too many 8:00 o'clock classes).

To get you started out right we are having an orientation for all new students on Thursday, August 26 at 3:30 p.m. in 202 McBryde. It is an informal get together with students and faculty so you can meet and chat with some of the professors and advisors. These people will play an important role in your academic growth during the next four years. If you are unable to attend, contact Jan Francis at 231-8382 or email her at jafranci@vt.edu.

Words from the Chair Dr. Albert E. Moyer

As a new student at Virginia Tech, you likely feel overwhelmed. In fact, even before arriving on campus, you probably already feel a little dazed. If you're typical, you doubtless spent many hours during the summer stressing over a long list of concerns. Your parents kept telling you to contact your assigned roommate, but you kept putting it off. You had to decide on buying a new computer, but your two best friends kept confusing you because one favored a Mac and the other insisted on a Windows machine. You had to select a slate of courses, but you had the premonition that when you finally got a chance to register all the good classes and times would be taken. On top of all this, you had to face leaving home--making a break from family, friends, and pets.

About the time you begin to rein in these late summer apprehensions, you will suddenly find

yourself in Blacksburg facing fall semester. Once on campus, the feeling of being overwhelmed will probably return. The strain builds as you jockey for the best bed and desk in your undersized dorm room. Your first morning, when you go to eat breakfast, you have to risk joining a table of strangers. Then, you run a gauntlet of silent, staring students while locating the only remaining empty desk in your first class.

Finally, you have to cope with trying to absorb the classroom instructions of an intimidating professor (with a B.A., M.A., and a Ph.D. or two) as she warns about proper footnote style for a twenty-page paper due in early November.

Fortunately, the feeling of being overwhelmed will fade. And--if the faculty and staff of the History Department have anything to do with it--the feeling will fade quickly. Every member of the department is committed to making your transition to university life as smooth and unperplexing as possible. We're dedicated to providing learning experiences that, while rigorous, are supportive and congenial. For example, if you have a problem with scheduling a class, be sure to contact your advisor or a member of the support staff. If you have doubts about an upcoming assignment or examination, don't hesitate to contact your professor. Indeed, your priority as a new student should be to make personal contacts--early and frequently--with our faculty and staff. This type of personal interaction tops the list not only for getting past the feeling of being overwhelmed but also for ensuring a meaningful undergraduate experience.

See you on the fourth floor of Major Williams Hall.

Did you know?

If you did not take foreign language in high school the foreign language at Tech does not count toward the 120 credits needed to graduate.

Club News

The History Club is open to anyone with an interest in history. Gwen King, President of Phi Alpha Theta, will be present at the new student orientation on Aug. 26 to answer any questions you may have.

To join Phi Alpha Theta a student must have 12 credits completed in history; a 3.1 QCA in history; and a 3.0 QCA in 2/3 of all other classes taken. An induction of qualified students is held each semester.

New officers for the year are **Gwen King**, President; **Daniel Palmer**, Vice-President and **Adam Gray**, Treasurer/Secretary. For further information contact Ms. King at gwking@vt.edu.

Spring and Summer Graduates

Congratulations to our May, Summer I, and Summer II graduates. We wish them all the best in the future. Those receiving Bachelor of Arts degrees are:

Kevin Michael Aldrich
Benjamin Thomas Allbee
Robert Edward Allen III
Douglas Ross Appler
Charles Tyler Barber
Charles Eugene Besancon III
Collin Adam Bissell
Corey Aaron Boggs
Charles Michael Bryden
Heidi Leigh Burch
Timothy Scott Churchill
Heather Elisabeth Cleveland
Elizabeth Bryant Coffee
Benjamin Joseph DiGiulian
Edward Murrell Downs Jr.
Jason Edward Elardo
Jennifer Nicole Ferguson
Daniel Harding Ficklin
Paul Francis Fischer
Brian Patrick Flaherty***
Norma Jean Flinchum
Marklin Barber Franklin
Jennifer Njambi Good
Patrick Grady Hall
Jonathan Michael Horn

Brian James Huber
Shaunna Elaine Hunter
Joshua Michael Insull
Beth Ann Jackson
Lucretia Ann Jarels
Christopher David Johnston**
Gregory Aaron Kessler***
Eric Karl Knight
Brian James Laverty
John Mark Leach**
Jennifer Carleen Mabey
Edward Joseph Maggio**
Shayna Kae McGinnis
Daniel Lawrence McGrath
Jon Kenneth McPhail
Terry Anthony Millirons
Karen Mary Natzke
Tammetha Dawn O'Dom
Daniel James Palmer***
Robert Todd Perdue**
Mandy Christine Poitras
Kyna Danielle Porter
Rachel Ellen Ratliff
Morgen Louise Russler
Jeffrey Alexander Smith
Jason Mark Stewart
Amy Lynn Van Middlesworth***
John Michael Wall
Joseph Alexander Walters
Holly Denise Whiteman*
Matthew Carson Widmer
Bryan Duane Willis
Blaine Harold Wiltse
James Elwood Worthington
Summa Cum Laude ***
Magna Cum Laude **
Cum Laude

Special Awards

J. Ambler Johnston Prize - Brian Flaherty and Daniel Palmer
History Prize - Amy Van Middlesworth;
Honorable Mention - John Toler, II
Web Page Prize - Christopher Johnston and Joel Charboneau
Virginia Tech Man of the Year - Edward Maggio

Did you know?

The minimum standard for good academic standing will continue to be a cumulative QCA of 2.0.

Faculty In the News

Crandall Shifflett received the following honor this summer: "On behalf of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Council for the Great City and MCI WorldCom Foundation, we are pleased to inform you that your website, "Virtual Jamestown: Natives and Newcomers," has been selected as one of the top humanities sites for inclusion as part of the National Endowment' EDSITEMent Project. EDSITEMent is a humanities website that serves as a gateway to the best educational sites in the humanities for students, teachers, and parents.

Websites selected for inclusion are nominated through responses to requests via humanities listservs and through the website itself. After an initial screening by Endowment staff, a peer review panel assesses the sites and submits thirty or so sites for consideration to a Blue Ribbon panel. Your site was one of those selected by both panels for inclusion in the third round of selections."

Fred Baumgartner's new book "*Longing for the End: A History of Millennialism in Western Civilization*" has been published by St. Martin's Press. He also gave a lecture on "Millennialism in Colonial America" at Avoca Museum in Alta Vista, VA in June.

Peter Wallenstein's recent publications include "Race, Marriage, and the Supreme Court--From *Pace v. Alabama* (1883) to *Loving v. Virginia* (1967)," in the *Journal of Supreme Court History*; "Law and the Boundaries of Place and Race in Interracial Marriage: Interstate Comity, Racial Identity, and Miscegenation Laws in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia, 1860s-1960s," in the *Akron Law Review* (Spring 1999); and 28 entries, on civil rights lawyers and other figures, in *American National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 1999).

Glenn Bugh presented a lecture at the Governor's Latin Academy at Hollins University on Roman society. On July 23-24 he presented a seminar on Ancient Greek Cities at the Smithsonian Institution Residential Seminar Program in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Bugh will speak at the XIth Congress of the International Federation of the Societies of Classical Studies (FIEC) in late August, to be held in Kavala, Greece.

Darleen Pryds was awarded a research fellowship to be in residence at the Medieval Institute at the University of Notre Dame for the Fall Semester, 1999. She will be working on her second book, "A Medieval Charismatic Street Preacher: Rose of Viterbo."

Congratulations faculty on your productive summer!

"hstmajor" on the Web

contributed by
Dr. Kathleen Jones

"hstmajor" is a moderated forum for undergraduate history majors interested in discussing academic programs, course offerings, graduate programs, jobs, and conferences. Participants also exchange views on research topics, relationships with faculty advisers and mentors, and to subscribe check the list's website at:

<http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~hstmajor/>



ALUMNI Update

C. Vaughan Stanley ('75) works as a special collections librarian at the Leyburn Library at Washington and Lee University, has received tenure and promotion to associate professor.

David N. Anthony ('87), a partner in the law firm of Kauffman & Canoles, P.C., will serve as a secretary-treasurer for the Virginia Bar Assoc. Young lawyers division for 1999.

Lt.j.g. Jason A. Darish (95), USN, returned from a deployment to Sigonella, Sicily, with Patrol Squadron Five based out of NAS Jacksonville, Florida.

Classes begin August 23rd



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