the Institute Report

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Calendar of Events includes early spring sports events. The March issue will include the complete spring sports schedule

Danny Byram performs in Jackson Memorial Hall during VMI's Sacred Assembly Weekend. The Sacred Assembly weekend was January 21-23.

Investigation Finds Allegations Groundless

A report released December 16, 1999 by Lexington/Rockbridge County Commonwealth Attorney Gordon Saunders brought to a close almost six months of intensive analysis and appraisal of discretionary expenses and book writing of VMI Superintendent, Major General Josiah Bunting III.

During the six-month period, there was extensive media coverage, two reports presented by Mr. Saunders, and a report by the State Auditor of Public Accounts. Much of the attention was spawned by numerous anonymous allegations and whispers of irregularities, all of which were ultimately found completely groundless.

"This entire experience has been quite difficult for VMI," said Bruce C. Gottwald, President of the VMI Board of Visitors. "There are those who have attempted to mischaracterize General Bunting's endeavors on behalf of VMI. Their attempts have been fruitless, detrimental to VMI, and have come at great cost to the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Institute in terms of time, effort, and resources, to say nothing of the personal burden on General Bunting and his family."

"These allegations resulted in enormous suffering for my two greatest loves – my family and this Institute," said General Bunting. "Thank God for the support of the people who know that my efforts – in this situation wantonly mischaracterized – have always been and are only to urge and advance the cause of VMI."

VMI's Board of Visitors anticipated the conclusions of the State Auditor in its statement of support released following its August meeting. The Board was joined by all Alumni organizations, the Alumni Association, the VMI Foundation, and the Keydet Club in its expression of support for the Superintendent.

"So this curious chapter is closed, and it releases VMI to concentrate its total efforts on a major fund-raising campaign focused on the academic front," said Gottwald. "Meanwhile, despite the diversions of these unnecessary events, the work of VMI proceeds."

The strongest academic class in 10 years matriculated in August. Applications to VMI are up 28 percent since 1995, and current applications are ahead of last year by another 18 percent. At

Continued on page 2

Pirkle Named Assistant Admissions Director

The VMI admissions office has a new face with the addition of Claudia M. Pirkle to its staff, but she is no stranger to VMI. Pirkle, who will be assistant director of admissions in charge of recruiting women and will hold the rank of major in the Virginia Militia, has been an instructor in the chemistry department since 1996. Prior to that she served as a chemistry tutor to athletes for three years under the NCAA Academic Enhancement Program. In both 1998 and 1999, she won the Corps of Cadets Distinguished Teacher Award for the Science Division.

Major Pirkle is a 1980 graduate of North Georgia College with a B.S. in chemistry, cum laude, and she holds a Master of Education in administration and supervision from Clemson University. Also, she has been a high school science teacher in Buford, Georgia. She is married to Dr. Kip Pirkle, a professor of management at Washington & Lee. They have two children, Brian (17) and Amanda (12).

Major Pirkle began her duties, January 4th. She replaces Terri Reddings, who became Dean of Admissions at Hollins University. "We are very fortunate that Claudia has joined our staff," said Col. Vern Beitzel, director of admissions. "She has a delightful personality, she knows and appreciates the unique aspects of VMI, and she has a wonderful rapport with young people."

Bloodmobile Exceeds Goal

The recent bloodmobile at VMI produced 367 pints of blood, exceeding the goal of 340, a 107.9 percent effort. Emalee Hall, American Blood Cross Donor Recruitment Representative, expresses her appreciation to all cadets, faculty, and staff who gave "The Gift of Life."

Allegations

Continued from page 1

the current pace, the number of applicants for the Class of 2004 would be the largest in two decades.

Success in international programs is unprecedented with 10 percent of the Corps participating in foreign study during the course of the academic year and summer session, exchange programs with 10 foreign military academies or universities, and the current Corps has 34 cadets representing 22 foreign countries.

The successful assimilation of women into the Corps continues with two female cadets having graduated last May. In the midst of assimilation, annual giving topped $3 million in 1999 for the first time, continuing an upward trend.

Plans for the capital campaign are underway, and it will lay the groundwork for a strengthened and even more academically competitive VMI.

"These successes reflect Josiah Bunting's work," added Gottwald. "VMI's reputation throughout the state and nation has never been higher, and I reaffirm the Board's confidence in General Bunting's leadership. He will guide the Institute into the next century."

Cadet Killed in Automobile Accident

Cadet Michael Eugene Amann, Class of 2000, of Stafford, Virginia, was killed as the result of head injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Norfolk, Virginia on January 14. Amann was a member of F company, a history major and had been on the lacrosse team.

A United States Marine Reservist, Cadet Amann was assigned to Company A, Amphibious Assault Battalion in Norfolk and had recently been promoted to corporal.

He is survived by his parents, Isabell and Duane Amann of Stafford.

A military funeral service was held at the Quantico Marine Base Chapel on January 19.

Flags on the VMI Post were flown at half-staff in Cadet Amann's memory through January 19 and a memorial service was held in Jackson Memorial Hall on January 24.

Cadet Dies of Cancer

Cadet David Northwood Stormont, V, Class of 2000, of Duck, North Carolina died at his home surrounded by his family on January 22, after having waged a long and courageous battle against cancer.

His remains were cremated, and a Memorial Service celebrating his life was held January 29 at the Liberty Christian Fellowship in Kill Devil Hills, N.C.

Cadet Stormont's survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David N. Stormont, IV, Class of 1974 and a brother, Ryan.

Flags on the VMI Post were flown at half-staff in Cadet Stormont's honor through Saturday, January 29 and a memorial service was conducted on Post by Chaplain Park on February 3.

Lexis-Nexis Database Available

Preston Library has announced the addition of the online database Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe. The database provides faculty, staff, and cadets access to full-text articles covering a wide range of news, business, legal, and reference topics. The database is accessible from any computer on the VMI network. Remote access via the internet (i.e. from off campus) is not available at this time. Those interested can access the site directly at http://web.lexis-nexis.com/universe or from the Preston Library page at http://www.vmi.edu/library.

The Institute Report

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Alumnus Initiates $10,000 Prize

Cadets To Be Rewarded for Innovative Uses of Computer Related Technology

Thanks to the generosity of a VMI alumnus, this and succeeding year's Institute Awards Convocations will include a new prize to be known as the "Applied Technology Award". Cadets, the only eligible recipients, are encouraged to develop creative and novel uses of the internet and/or applied computer technologies.

There will be one grand prize of $7,000 with two runners-up awards of $1,500 each. Criteria of computer application set by the awards committee, consisting of five VMI faculty and staff members, are very wide: it may be a website, a program or application facilitating communication or sharing of knowledge, even a spam filter or another application that makes use of artificial intelligence, or one that showcases a novel internet or computer application. The actual subject of the application has virtually no limitations provided it is not commercial in nature. The committee and judges will be particularly interested in creativity and applicability.

All cadets have been notified of this award and provided application procedures and deadlines. All applications and submissions must be sent to the Applied Technology Awards Committee via e-mail. The committee will review projects, select the finalists, and a small panel of alumni will convene in Lexington in late April to choose the winners.

"We're delighted at this opportunity to reinforce and encourage the imaginative application of technology within the curriculum," said Brigadier General Alan Farrell, Dean of the Faculty. "A Dean, of course, learns to turn loose the creativity of 1300 adolescents with circumspection."

New Faces at VMI

New faces at VMI. (l-r). Front Row: Maj. Laura Offstein, assistant commandant; Andrea Senkowski, instructor of chemistry; Jeanne O'Malley, tutor for intercollegiate athletics and volunteer in the Learning Center; Srimayi B. Sen, instructor in economics and business; and Claudia Pirkle, assistant director of admissions. Back Row: James C. Squire, assistant professor of electrical engineering; William O'Malley, holder of the Mary Moody Northern Chair in International Studies; Lt. Chris Ackerman, visiting student from the Royal Military College of Schrivenham; and Peter Kane, director of the regimental band (through April 15). Not pictured: William Crisp '63, instructor-international studies and political science; Calland F. Carnes, visiting professor-international studies and political science; and John Wilhelm, visiting professor-international studies and political science.

VMI Professors Featured in PBS Series "NOVA"

Cols. Neel and Mullen on "Secrets of Lost Empires"

The NOVA program "Secrets of Lost Empires" began airing a new series beginning Tuesday, February 1. The first two programs in the series included the work of VMI faculty members Wayne Neel and Grigg Mullen (along with a cast of thousands).

On February 1, "Medieval Siege" featured two trebuchets built on the banks of Loch Ness. The producer of the program, NOVA's Michael Barnes, was so intrigued by the VMI trebuchet built as an FTX project in the Spring of 1997, that he developed the idea into a NOVA special. Faculty members Wayne Neel and Grigg Mullen were instrumental in the design and construction of all three trebuchets. Most of the skilled artisans building the machines (including Col. Mullen) were members of the Timber Framers Guild. Some cadets should have recognized faces from the VMI trebuchet, Effinger Gazebo and Project Horizon FTX efforts. Col. Neel is the "voice of engineering" for the NOVA special, while Col. Mullen was the driving force behind the construction effort. The trebuchets in Scotland were built to hurl 250 lb sandstone balls at a section of castle wall to test the destructive power of trebuchets. Recent articles on the trebuchet have appeared in the January issues of *Smithsonian Magazine* and *Army Times*; and the *New York Times* ran a lengthy television review on "Secrets of Lost Empires" in its February 1 edition.

Credit should also be given to Dr. Paul Chevedden, a past visiting professor of history and political science who introduced the trebuchet to VMI as part of a study grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

On February 8 at 8 p.m., "Pharoh's Obelisk" will show the raising of a 36 ft, 24.5 ton granite obelisk using only ropes and people. NOVA tried four years ago to raise an obelisk and failed. NOVA tried again last April to raise the monument, again without success. However, Rick Brown of Massachusetts College of Art, a VMI and Scotland trebuchet veteran, was on hand at the second failure. Dr. Brown convinced NOVA that he could assemble a team to successfully raise the obelisk. Col. Mullen and Jim Kricker (a professional millwright from Saugerties, N.Y. and trebuchet veteran) were asked to join the team that met with success.

Assistant to the Superintendent is a 30 Year Veteran of the Institute

Imagine the following series of moves.

Start in San Juan, Puerto Rico, then pull up stakes and move to Long Island, New York, and then Brooklyn, then take all your belongings and move to Arizona, then make another move to upstate New York. Now pick it all up and move back to Arizona, but shortly you have to box your life again for a move to Savannah, Georgia.

Though you find Savannah to your liking, you must fill the moving vans once again to resettle in Hamden, Conn., which is located very near New Haven. Your Connecticut stay prepares you for your next move. This time you cross an ocean, the Pacific, as you move to Misawa, Japan, which is located on the northern tip of the Japanese Island and provides brutal winter weather. Then you move back to the desert of Arizona.

Col. Edwin L. Dooley

Could you imagine making a dozen moves like these during the course of a lifetime?

Col. Edwin L. Dooley, executive assistant to the superintendent and a member of the Institute faculty and staff for 29 of the past 32 years, made the aforementioned series of moves with his military family before the age of 17. "It was all part of being a military brat," he says.

"Moving was part of the military experience. When my Dad moved, so did we," said Dooley recently of the youthful travel experiences he shared with his three younger siblings.

"Sure, there was a downside to moving. I left friends behind and had to cope often with the whole process of starting over," the soft-spoken Dooley recalled. "On the positive side, each move not only brought a new location, but a change in culture, climate, local traditions, a chance to learn new history, and a chance to reinvent myself."

History has always been an important part of Dooley's life. "As far back as I recall, I've been interested in learning the history of places, people and things." Dooley's many writings on historical subjects that interest him underscore that interest. His most recent published work hit close to home...literally. His article "Wartime San Juan Puerto Rico: The Forgotten American World War II Home Front," which was published in the October 1999 edition of *The Journal of Military History*, tells of the American military presence on the island during World War II. His father was stationed there; his mother was Puerto Rican, and Dooley was born at Fort Brooke, in San Juan.

Wanderlust struck the budding historian again immediately following graduation from high school in Arizona. He struck out on a trip across the United States with the expressed intent of visiting Civil War battlefields. "It was a wonderful experience. I visited Williamsburg and even came through Lexington on the return trip, though I didn't stop here,'' he said wistfully.

As a senior at Tucson's Catalina High School, Dooley worked as a prep sports stringer for the *Tucson Daily Citizen*. "An editor there encouraged me to go to the University of Arizona to train to be a journalist," he continued. "I'll never forget what he told me, 'Don't be a journalism major,' he told me. 'major in the liberal arts. Learn as much as you can about as many things as you can.'" That advice actually turned him from a career in journalism to one in teaching.

After graduating from Arizona with a history major and minors in French and English, Dooley realized "I decided to go to graduate school. I applied for a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and, recalling the wonderful feelings engendered by my visit to Virginia, I applied to the University of Virginia," Both applications were accepted, and another cross-country move was made.

From 1964 until 1967, he was in Charlottesville. "Meeting my wife Lu, who was also in grad school, was the best of many great things that happened during that happy time," he added with a broad grin. "I had rarely stayed in one place very long any time during my life, and Lu had lived in the same house in Goochland County her entire life," he explained.

In the fall of 1967, the now-married Dooleys were both "A.B.Ds .....all but the dissertation" and went to the University of Richmond with the intent of teaching a bit and finishing his dissertation. The former occurred; the latter did not. The following fall, Dooley accepted a temporary job teaching history at the Institute.

"I fell deeply in love with the Institute: its history, the honor system, a military life without having to move every year or so. It was a place I knew I wanted to stay for a while," he remarked. "It was a place a military brat could feel at home."

Realizing after four years of teaching that his lack of a finished dissertation would deny him tenure, Dooley accepted an offer to take over the management of VMI's Public Relations Office. "The only assignment I was really given was to 'get national publicity for VMI within the next five years.' We broke through in a big way on that when Charles Kuralt featured VMI on his primetime television show." During his tenure as Director of Publications, the first issue of the *The Institute Report* was published on December 14, 1973, and Dooley wrote most of the early issues, returning to his journalistic roots.

The Dooleys, in concert with some friends, also started a local tourist and calendar magazine called "Main Street." In 1977, after 9 years at VMI and with no firm plan in mind, Dooley resigned from the VMI staff to open a private public relations company. He did maintain his relationship with VMI by agreeing to be the director of the VMI Museum and teach one course in exchange for office and phone privileges. During this period, he was also the state museum coordinator for the National Endowment for the Arts.

In 1978, he was pleasantly surprised to receive a call from Virginius Dabney inquiring whether Dooley might consider coming to Richmond to be the director of the Virginia Historical Society. "It seemed like the thing to do at the time," recalled Dooley. He and his family moved to Richmond, but "it wasn't very long before I began to miss Lexington and VMI."

When former VMI Superintendent Lt. Gen. Richard Irby asked Dooley to return to VMI in 1980 as Institute Planning Officer, Dooley jumped at the opportunity. And Dooley, serving under four different superintendents since 1980 (making a total of five during his VMI tenure), has been an integral part of all VMI planning issues during the past two decades. "My work in planning gave me a great opportunity to hear from all segments of the VMI community and then try to bring them together."

His scholarly research on Claudius Crozet and military education at Ecole Polytechnique has resulted in several published articles and a Crozet biography in collaboration with retired VMI professor of history Col. Robert Hunter. His numerous trips to France also opened the way to an exchange program between VMI and its French counterpart. As other exchange programs developed, Dooley was asked to oversee the international exchange program in addition to his duties as Secretary to the Board of Visitors. Later trips to the National Defense Academy of Estonia created further exchange opportunities.

When not working at his very orderly Smith Hall desk or teaching a French drill section, Dooley relaxes with his camera or his easel. "I enjoy photography and painting," he said. As far as we can tell, there are not very many things that don't fascinate Ed Dooley, and that has been to VMI's benefit for most of the past 30 years.

Professors Awarded Leave

Two faculty members have been awarded sabbatical leave.

Col. R. Wane Schneiter, professor of civil and environmental engineering, is the recipient of the Awards Sabbatical Leave. Col. Schneiter will spend the first semester (August-December 2000) updating course offerings in environmental engineering, marketing them to prospective students, and developing a website.

Lt. Col. Rose Mary Sheldon, associate professor of history, is the recipient of the 2000 Wachtmeister Sabbatical Leave. Lt. Col. Sheldon will spend the second semester (January-May 2001) working on a book on ancient Greece called *The Odysseus Syndrome: Espionage in Ancient Greece*.

Richter Has First Book Published

Major Duncan Richter, professor of Psychology and Philosophy had his first book published in December 1999. The book, entitled *Ethics After Anscomb: Post "Modern Moral Philosophy"*, is part of the *Library of Ethics and Applied Philosophy*, published by Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Major Richter takes as his starting point a paper by Elizabeth Anscombe entitled "Modern Moral Philosophy," which delivers a scathing attack on its subject.

According to the publishers: "The outstanding features of this book are that it directly confronts the challenge posed by G. E. M. Anscombe in "Modern Moral Philosophy" of how moral philosophy can be done, it makes a significant contribution to the debate on virtue theory and anti-theory in ethics, and it shows the relevance of such theoretical discussion by grounding it in, and applying it to, contemporary moral issues such as abortion, suicide, and the moral status of animals." The book was completed with help from the VMI grants-in-aid-of-research committee.

Cadet Journalist Follows His Dreams

Jack Hagel

During his high school days at Pope Paul VI in Fairfax, Jack Hagel's primary interest was in seeing if he could slam a soccer ball past a diving goalie and into the net. He was quite good at that athletic feat and was offered some athletic scholarship help by VMI.

"Coach Ross did an excellent job of recruiting me, and I came to VMI thinking that soccer would continue to be as important to me as it was in high school," Hagel recalled recently. "Then I got involved in working with *The Cadet* newspaper, and I fell in love with the world of journalism. Soccer didn't seem quite so important any more."

Hagel has done much more than dream journalistic pipe dreams while laboring on *The Cadet*. During the past semester, while serving *The Cadet* in many editorial and writing capacities, Hagel worked at lining up journalistic opportunities outside the Post boundaries.

He succeeded in a major way.

First, Hagel, who is of Puerto Rican descent, applied for the Spring 2000 class of Chips Quinn Scholars. The program, which is sponsored by The Freedom Forum, offers minority student journalists intensified training in the craft of news coverage, newsroom internships and mentoring by caring veterans.

Second, he applied for summer internships at many of the top daily newspapers across the country.

Third, he approached VMI about allowing him to enroll next fall in the American University Washington Semester Program in Journalism with the intention of then returning to VMI and graduating a year late.

"Funny how being at VMI has allowed me to discover how deeply committed to I am to a journalistic career path. VMI is such an absolutely unique place to cover. There are so many interesting people and perplexing issues," Hagel said during the Christmas furlough as he prepared to leave for San Francisco.

Hagel was leaving for San Francisco because, as he had learned a few weeks prior, he had been selected as one of 14 Chips Quinn Scholars for the Class of 2000. His holiday mood was further buoyed when he was offered and accepted a summer internship with the *The Raleigh News & Observer*, one of the most highly rated daily newspapers in the country. He completed the holiday trifecta when he was told that VMI would allow him to go to American University next fall and then return to the Institute.

"I am really grateful to Gen. Farrell [Dean of the Faculty], for helping to work these things out so I could do them. VMI has been very supportive of these unique opportunities I have," Hagel added.

The Freedom Forum sponsors the Chips Quinn Scholars Program in which Hagel is currently involved. The San Francisco program consists of weekly seminars at The Freedom Forum's Pacific Coast Center. Among the weekly topics to be studied are first amendment issues; computer assisted reporting; media ethics; and numerous writing approaches. In addition to the seminar training, Hagel will work four days at a week at a San Francisco area newspaper.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity," said Hagel. "I certainly am aware that I represent VMI everywhere I go, and I take VMI with me everywhere I go. This will be no different.

"These are the things I want to do right now, but I definitely want to come back and graduate from VMI," he added. "I've learned a lot at VMI. I've learned how to deal with people in very tight spaces. I've learned about accountability and responsibility, and I can't say that I truly understood those concepts when I was in high school."

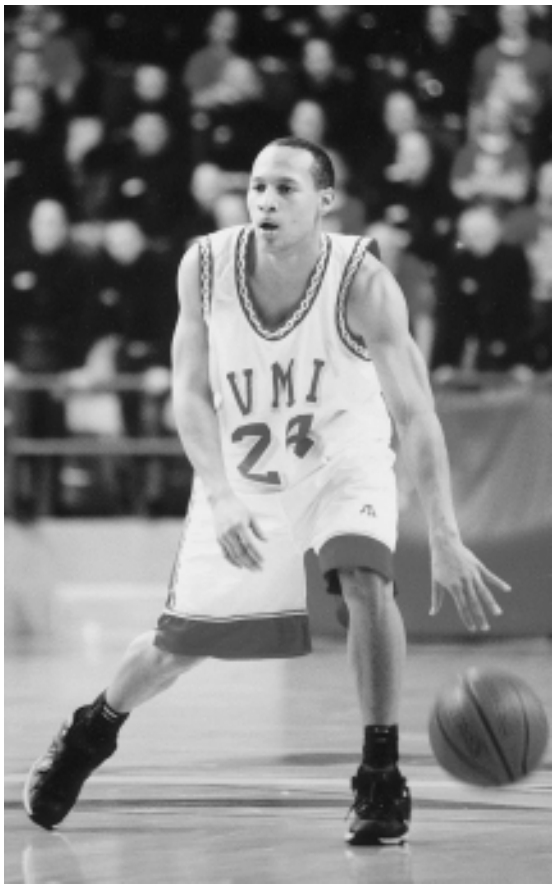
Hagel feels strongly that the work of *The Cadet* is important to the Institute community. "I would hope that all those interested in the community would read *The Cadet* and find that it addresses those issues that need to be addressed. I may be personally passive about what goes on at VMI, but I am professionally and journalistically passionate about covering what happens at VMI."

Cadet Hagel has certainly taken some giant steps on the road to chasing down his professional dreams.

Civil War Series Edited by Rachels

The inaugural novels in the series "Classics of Civil War Fiction," will be published in Spring 2000. The series, edited by Maj. David A. Rachels, VMI assistant professor of English and fine arts and David Madden, professor of English at Louisiana State University, will bring back into print collections written by Northern and Southern writers during the Civil War. The collection features traditional war stories, sentimental romances, meticulous reconstructions of historical events, and speculative alternative histories.

Each series classic will feature a new introduction written expressly for the series by an expert historian, literary critic, or other appropriate author. The series is published in cooperation with The United States Civil War Center.



Point guard Andre Quarles brings the ball up court in a recent VMI basketball contest. Quarles, who matriculated with the Class of 1999, has persevered to lead the struggling Keydet hoops squad this season along with fellow senior Aaron Demory '00. He was named to the United Airlines Tip-off All-Tourney team during the "Runnin' 'Roos" first-ever trip to Hawaii this past November, when he scored 29 points and dished out 6 assists during the 2-game tournament.

Davis Completes Busy Year in World History Activities

Colonel Thomas W. Davis, professor of history, has recently completed a busy year of activities related to VMI's two-semester program in world history taken by all cadets.

In May he was a participant in a conference entitled "Multiculturalism in World History" held at Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, and sponsored by the Foreign Policy Research Institute.

In late June, he traveled to Victoria, British Columbia, to attend the 8th annual international conference of the World History Association. Col. Davis is a member of that organization's teaching committee, which studies and circulates ideas on how to teach the subject.

He then chaired a session entitled "State Standards and the Teaching of World History: Issues, Controversies, and Opportunities" at the 11th annual meeting of the Southeast World History Association held in Richmond in mid-October.

He returned to Richmond in early December to make a presentation on the teaching of world history to members of the Virginia Association of Independent Schools.

Having received a request from the College Board's Advanced Placement Program, Col. Davis is providing material for the new AP course in world history that will be offered in the nation's high schools for the first time in the 2001-2002 school year. He submitted questions for the AP's pre-test in world history, and he is currently working on a sample syllabus for the new AP course.

Finally, Col. Davis learned last Fall that an article he wrote three years ago would be reprinted in two anthologies. Entitled "Starting From Scratch: Shifting from Western Civ to World History," this article first appeared in the December, 1996 issue of "Perspectives," a monthly newsletter sent to the members of the American Historical Association. The AHA included that article in a new volume in October, *Perspectives on Teachinq Innovations: World and Global History.* Bedford Press has just published the same article in a book edited by Ross Dunn, *The New World History: A Teacher's Companion*.

VMI Weather Station and Weather-Cam Now Online

Coming to Lexington for a visit? Thinking about attending the parade and wish you could check the weather before finalizing your plans? Wonder no more. The VMI Weather Station is now online. Web visitors can check the current temperature and many other weather specifics just by visiting the Institute weather page. The weather station consists of a Davis Weather Monitor II with the following sensors: temperature, wind speed, humidity, rain gauge, and barometer. The station, which is connected to a computer, records weather data and stores it in an internal memory. Software called Weather View 32 collects the data and can output the data as an image or webpage and it also creates an archival database of past weather data on the computer. The weather software can also send out alerts, warning of certain changes in the weather conditions.

The VMI weather page is located at http://www.vmi.edu/weather/. The data is updated every 5 minutes.

Better yet, want to see the parade ground and Barracks areas or even portions of a parade? In addition to the weather station a weather (web) cam was also added to the project. It is a Sony Digital Camera, placed in a security housing to protect it from the elements. What is unique about VMI's webcam is that it supports streaming video (motion) rather than a static picture that is updated every fifteen minutes. A "pan and tilt" device was added so the camera can be moved without having to go up to the roof.

The camera streams according to the bandwidth (i.e. if you are looking at the image with a modem it does not update itself as fast) and will stop sending a video stream after a few minutes. Viewers may have to refresh or reload their web browser). Up to ten users can see the image at one time.

In December 1998, Colonel Gabe Balazs, professor emeritus of electrical engineering announced that he was retiring at the end of the spring semester. Col. Balazs had been collecting weather data at VMI for the past 15 years. Col. Don Samdahl suggested a automated weather data collection system. Although the weather station was originally planned to be implemented by May of 1999, technical considerations delayed the launch of the weather station until November 1999. The weather station was implemented with help from the VMI family: buildings and grounds, information services, Preston Library, public relations, and electrical engineering.

Potpourri

❖ **Brig. Gen. Alan Farrell**, dean of the faculty, will present a lecture "What Dark Signs? Myth and Image for Small Lives," at Hampden-Sydney College during a symposium entitled "Immortal Troy is Enduring Legacy in Western Culture" February 29 - March 2.

❖ A review of the newly-published book *Eisenhower*, by Geoffrey Perret, appeared in the October 31 edition of the *Washington Times*. The review was written by **Maj. Gen. Josiah Bunting III**, superintendent.

❖ **Twelve cadets from VMI's chapter of the Society of Physics Students** (SPS) were participants in a professional meeting hosted by the Virginia sections of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) and the Health Physics Society. The meeting included brief tours of Fort Monroe in Hampton and the Norfolk Naval Base and Naval Air Station, highlighted by a tour of the nuclear aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71). The meeting was held December 3-4. The VMI contingent was led by assistant professors of physics **Maj. Stacey Vargas**, faculty advisor to the VMI chapter of the SPS and **Lt. Col. Ross Thomas**, an ANS officer.

❖ **Col. Tappey H. Jones**, professor of chemistry, had a paper published in *The Caribbean Journal of Science* entitled "Dialkylpyrrolidines from the ants *Megalomyrmex cyendyra* Brandao and M. *latreillei* Emery" Vol. 35, p. 310 (1999). Also contributing to the paper were: **Thomas J. Wojciechowski '98**, R.R. Snelling, J.A. Torres, P. Chacon, and P.J. Devreis.

❖ An article by **Col. Spencer C. Tucker**, professor of history and John Biggs '30 Cincinnati Professor of Military History, appeared in the December 5 issue of the Fredericksburg *Free Lance Star*.

❖ **Lt. Col. Zhicheng Zhang**, associate director of institutional research and **Col. R. Stephen RiCharde**, director of institutional research, have co-written an article entitled "Intellectual and Metacognitive Development of Male College Students: A Repeated Measures Approach." The article was published in the November/December 1999 issue of the *Journal of College Student Development*, Vol. 40, No. 6.

An article by Charles H. "Bubba" Dorman was published in November in the American Baseball Coaches Association's *Coaching Digest*. The article was entitled "Hitting Prep."

❖ **VMI** was featured during a recent Newschannel 10 (WSLS-TV) public service campaign promoting the Lexington community through special week-long news features focusing on the community, its unique charm and vibrant business culture. The VMI **Office of Public Relations** and **VMI Museum** sponsored a 15 second commercial for the "Your Hometown" campaign.

❖ VMI assistant soccer coach **Pat McSorley**, a 1996 graduate of James Madison University, was recently named by James Madison's student newspaper, *The Breeze*, as one of the school's top 50 athletes of all time. McSorley played for JMU's Dukes, scoring 42 goals between 1992 and 1995, the most in school history. McSorley also scored at least one point in eight straight games in 1995, a school record. He was a *Soccer News* All-America honorable mention selection, a NSCAA third-team All-American, and All-South Region First Team Selection. McSorley has played for several professional soccer teams.

ROTC Corner

Army ROTC to hold annual Dining-In

Ron Carter '78 will be the guest speaker at the 2000 Army ROTC Dining-In held at the Virginia Horse Center on February 11. He will speak about his experiences in the military and civilian world.

Carter is a leader of an inner-city youth empowerment operation in Chicago. He served four years as a reserve officer in the Army, earned a M.B.A. from Pepperdine University, and played several years with the National Basketball Association's Los Angeles Lakers. Carter has served as a staffer with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and has spent much of his post-graduate career as a motivational speaker.

As a cadet, Carter earned his B.A. in economics and served as battalion commander in the Corps. He helped lead the Keydet basketball team to two consecutive appearances in the NCAA Tournament, in one of which they advanced to the Round of 8 (Eastern Regional Finals) and in the other to the "Sweet 16."

Entertainment for the evening will be the Army Chorus from Washington, DC. The Chorus will also give a public concert at VMI on February 12.

Cadets to attend Army Scuba School

This semester, 10 cadets will begin training for Army Scuba school. The cadets will attend the intense 4-week school at Ft Bragg, NC during their summer break. They will train all semester on conditioning and basic scuba principles and attend an evaluation during their Spring break. Upon completion of the school, the cadets will earn the coveted Scuba badge.

AFROTC garners an "Excellent" rating during recent visit

VMI's Air Force ROTC Detachment received an overall "Excellent" rating from the Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Inspector General (IG) team during their visit to VMI on January 13-14.

The IG team focused their evaluation, which is conducted every two years, on areas such as cadet pay and records, inventory, training, educational programs, and recruiting. The members of Detachment 880 spent several months prior to the inspection ensuring that all operations were in proper compliance with Air Force instructions, and benefited greatly from a recent staff assistance visit conducted by the AFROTC Southeast Region staff in September.

Member of the AFROTC staff receives promotion to captain

Todd Rupright, the AS 100 course director, was recently promoted to the grade of captain on January 5. Captain Rupright is a 1995 graduate of VMI who received his degree in civil engineering. Upon entering the Air Force, he was assigned to Scott Air Force Base, IL where he served as design project engineer, chief of simplified acquisition of base engineer requirements, chief of maintenance engineering, and squadron section commander. While at Scott Air Force Base, IL, Captain Rupright deployed to Eskan Village, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia where he served as the Resourses Flight Commander and Squadron Resourses Advisor. His hometown is Apalachin, New York.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, 7 February:
7 p.m. Basketball @ Wofford
Wednesday, 9 February:
4 p.m. Department Heads meeting, Smith Hall.
Thursday, 10 February:
3 p.m. Tennis vs. Washington & Lee, Patchin.
Friday, 11 February:
1 p.m. Board of Visitors meeting, Preston Library Turman Room.
7:30 p.m. Wrestling @ Appalachian State.
2 p.m. Baseball vs. Air Force (Tampa)
Indoor Track @ Virginia Tech. Invitational.
4:30 p.m. Parade, parade ground.
Army ROTC Dining-In.
Midwinter Hops, Cocke Hall.
Saturday, 12 February:
Board of Visitors meeting.
10 a.m. Concert, Army Chorale, Jackson Memorial Hall.
Noon Baseball vs. Air Force (Tampa)
Indoor Track @ Virginia Tech. Invitational.
Rifle Sectional, Kilbourne Hall.
7:30 p.m. Basketball @ ETSU.
7:30 p.m. Wrestling @ UNC Greensboro.
Midwinter Hops, Cocke Hall.
Sunday, 13 February:
1 p.m. Baseball vs. Air Force (Tampa)
3 p.m. Tennis vs. East Tennessee, Patchin.
Monday, 14 February:
7 p.m. Basketball vs. Appalachian State, Cameron Hall.
Wednesday, 16 February:
7:30 p.m. Wrestling vs. Chattanooga, Cocke Hall.
Thursday, 17 February:
2:30 p.m. Tennis vs. Lynchburg, Patchin.
Swimming @ Southern States Championships. (Feb. 17-20)
Friday, 18 February:
Admissions Open House.
Indoor Track @ Southern Conference Championship.
Parents Council meeting.
4:30 p.m. Parade, parade ground.
Saturday, 19 February:
Admissions Open House.
Noon Baseball @ Davidson.
1 p.m. Tennis vs. Mary Washington, Patchin.
Indoor Track @ Virginia Tech. Invitational.
Parents Council meeting.
7 p.m. Basketball @ Western Carolina.
Sunday, 20 February:
1 p.m. Baseball @ Davidson.
Monday, 21 February:
7 p.m. Basketball vs. Davidson, Cameron Hall.
Tuesday, 22 February:
ROTC Control Day.
Publications Board meeting.
Wednesday, 23 February:
2 p.m. Academic Board meeting, Smith Hall.
Friday, 25 February:
Midterm ends.
9:30 a.m. Tennis vs. UTC (at Va Tech).
6 p.m. Tennis @ Va Tech.
4:30 p.m. Parade, parade ground.
Saturday, 26 February:
9 a.m. Wrestling @ Southern Conference Tournament.
Noon Baseball @ Western Carolina.
2 p.m. Lacrosse vs. Virginia Tech, Patchin.
1 p.m. Basketball vs. Furman, Cameron Hall.
Sunday, 27 February:
1 p.m. Baseball @ Western Carolina.
Wednesday, 1 March:
9 a.m. Midterm grades due to registrar.
Thursday, 2 March:
Basketball @ Southern Conference tournament. (Mar. 2-5).
Friday, 3 March:
CAD Spring furlough begins.
2:30 p.m. Tennis vs. UNC-G, Patchin.
7 p.m. Baseball @ Georgia Southern.
Saturday, 4 March:
1:30 p.m. Baseball @ Georgia Southern.
Rifle @ MAC Championships.
Sunday, 5 March:
Rifle @ MAC Championships.
1:30 p.m. Baseball @ Georgia Southern.
2 p.m. Lacrosse vs. Quinnipiac, Patchin.
Monday, 6 March:
2:30 p.m. Baseball @ Liberty
Wednesday, 8 March:
3:30 p.m. Lacrosse vs. Holy Cross, Patchin.
Thursday, 9 March:
NCAA Rifle Championship, Kilbourne Hall. (Mar. 9-11)