the Institute Report

Virginia Military Institute
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VMI Commencement Exercises to be held on May 20

Phillip D. Hopkins, Jr.

Class valedictorian Phillip D. Hopkins, Jr., of Marshall, Va., and Ron Carter , Jr. '78 will share the stage during VMI's commencement exercises in Cameron Hall on May 20 at 11 a.m.

Carter will speak following the valedictorian's address. Hopkins was elected valedictorian by his classmates. See page 3 for separate articles on the two commencement speakers.

Ron Carter, Jr. '78

Twenty-Six Honored at Awards Convocation

Honorees at the May 2nd Institute Awards Convocation: (L to R) first row - Wes Robinson, Lt. Col. Holly Richardson, Gabriella Youngblood, Col. Mike Monsour, Col. George Piegari, Lt. Col. Kathleen Bulger-Barnett, Cadet Kukuh Suharwiyono, Cadet Lei Wang, Cadet Gregory Bryant. second row - Col. Jimmy Coale, Dr. Don Jamison, Col. Henry Schreiber, Col. Bruce Vandervort, Capt. Blair Turner, Col. Edward Daley, Cadet Matthew Frye, Cadet Anthony Conway, Cadet Justin Wood. third row - Col. Wane Schneiter, CDR Ned Reister, Maj. Shawn Addington, Cadet John-Henry J. Niederhaus. Not pictured are Cadets Richard Donahue, Brian Francis, Shawn Joyce and Tim Joyce. See Awards article on page 5.

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Jeffrey J. "Jeff" Morgan Killed in Plane Crash

Jeffrey J. "Jeff" Morgan (age 42), executive vice-president of the VMI Keydet Club was killed in a plane crash on April 14. Morgan was piloting a private plane returning from an annual Keydet Club function in Williamsburg en route to the Shenandoah Valley Airport. The plane went down shortly after noon approximately 7 miles southeast of the airport at Trayfoot Mountain.

A 1980 VMI graduate, Morgan joined the Keydet Club in 1991. Through his tireless efforts, the athletic scholarship fund raising organization has enjoyed unprecedented growth. Annual revenues have increased from $830,000 to $1.4 million with endowment funds growing from $3.2 million to $13.3 million.

"Jeff embodied the absolute best of VMI: character, temperament, dedication, intelligence, enthusiasm," said VMI Superintendent Major General Josiah Bunting III. "He truly gave his life to this school."

As a cadet, Morgan was a Dean's List student and majored in economics. He was a four-year starter for the Keydet football team at the nose guard position, a member of the 1977 Southern Conference championship team, and a captain of the 1979 team. His first class year he received the Henry Fairfax Ayers Medal as the most valuable senior player. In the 1976 Delaware game, he scored the winning touchdown, a rare moment of glory for a defensive lineman.

"Jeff personified the spirit of VMI," said Keydet Club President Ralph Costen, VMI Class of 1970. "His unique combination of integrity, dedication, and compassion made him the perfect representative of VMI and the Keydet Club. He was a tireless worker whose vision and creativity allowed the Keydet Club to become a model for fund raising organizations across the country."

Following graduation, he worked for International Circuit Technology, C.B. Fleet Company, and as a math teacher at Lexington High School. He spent the 1983-84 year as a graduate assistant football coach at VMI under Bob Thalman while earning his MBA degree from James Madison University. In 1985, he embarked on a six-year career with the engineering firm of Babcock and Wilcox in his hometown of Lynchburg. Working primarily with the Naval Nuclear Fuel Division, he held the positions of planner, lead planner, senior planner, sales specialist, and marketing and contract specialist.

Morgan is survived by his wife Jody; three children, Jake (14), Hannah (12), and Cameron (9); his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Morgan, Jr. of Lynchburg; a brother Richard of Tyro, Va.; and a sister Linda of Lynchburg.

Memorial contributions may be made to the following three funds: Morgan Family Fund, c/o VMI Keydet Club, P.O. Box 932, Lexington, VA. 24450; Morgan Scholarship Fund, c/o VMI Keydet Club; and the Rockbridge County High School Weight Room Fund, c/o RCHS Athletic Department, 143 Greenhouse Road, Lexington, VA 24450

Pierpaoli Named Recipient of Conquest Chair

Col. Paul Pierpaoli, assistant to the superintendent, has been awarded the Edwin P. Conquest '14 Chair in Humanities for the 2000-2001 academic year. Col. Pierpaoli, who has served in the superintendent's office since August 1998, has also taught history at VMI for the past two years. His recent book, *Truman & Korea: The Political Culture of the Early Cold War*, has received critical acclaim as a ground-breaking history of the domestic politics of the Korean War years. Assuming his new post in August 2000, Col. Pierpaoli will teach American diplomatic history & general U.S. history.

The Conquest Chair was established in 1972 by Mrs. Edwin P. Conquest and her two sons Dr. H. Fairfax Conquest and Edwin P. Conquest, Jr. It honors Brig. Gen. Edwin P. Conquest '14, who served in both world wars and in the Virginia National Guard. He founded the engineering firm of Conquest, Moncure, and Dunn, Inc. in his hometown of Richmond.

Col. Lee Nichols, Jr., Emeritus Professor of Electrical Engineering, Dies

Colonel Lee L. Nichols, Jr., VMI Class of 1944, died on Wednesday, May 10. Col. Nichols, emeritus professor of electrical engineering, taught on the VMI faculty for 44 years before his retirement in 1991.

Col. Nichols, the great-nephew of VMI's third superintendent, Lt. Gen. Edward West Nichols, entered VMI in 1940, but was called into the Army serving as an officer in the mechanized cavalry in Germany. He returned to VMI in 1946, completed his B.S. degree in electrical engineering a year later and almost immediately joined the electrical engineering faculty. He holds a master's degree from Ohio State University and a doctorate from Virginia Tech in electrical engineering.

He served his alma mater and the EE department with unfailing loyalty. He was department head for nearly half his teaching career, serving four 5-year terms in that capacity. His other duties at VMI included assistant commandant of cadets, superintendent's representative to the Honor Court, chairman of the 1985 Self-Study for accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges, a member of the Academic Board for 19 years, and director for the inaugural activities for VMI's 12th Superintendent Major General John W. Knapp. In addition, he officiated at track and swimming events and was a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, graduating from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1958.

The Institute honored him with the Distinguished Service Award in 1983 and the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1986. He also held the Benjamin H. Hardaway, Jr.'13 Distinguished Professorial Chair from 1987 until his retirement.

A registered professional engineer, Col. Nichols developed an international reputation as an expert on the use of radar in law enforcement authoring many articles on the subject. He made more than 100 court appearances as a qualified expert on traffic radar matters.

He was also active in community affairs in Lexington and Rockbridge County serving as president of the Rockbridge Cancer Society and chairman of the Rockbridge Christmas Basket Program. He was a member of the Lexington Kiwanis Club and served on the vestry of the R.E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church.

A memorial service will be held June 2 at 11 a.m. in Jackson Memorial Hall. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the VMI Keydet Club Scholarship Fund or Rockbridge Area Hospice.

The Institute Report

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Two to Speak at VMI Commencement

Hopkins Chosen as Valedictorian

May 1997…what were the odds you could have gotten that a cadet who had finished his or her Rat year with a 2.0 GPA would be selected by Brother Rats to deliver the valedictorian's address?

Truth is strange sometimes. If you had been fortunate enough to find an outlet to accept a small wager on such an outrageous proposition at no doubt infinitesimal odds, you should run…don't walk …collect your millions and find your own island someplace.

Phillip David Hopkins, Jr. is the first to admit, "I didn't exactly have a stellar academic Rat year. I was a history major. Frankly, I was more concerned with having as much fun as it is possible for a Rat to have than I was with anything academic. In the back of my head, I kind of knew I could do it, but I just blew it off," he continued in a straightforward manner, offering no outside reasons or excuses. "I'm the one who didn't do the work. There was no one to blame but me."

During Hopkins's Rat year at VMI, his father, Phil Sr. was completing his first year as head basketball coach at Western Carolina University, one of VMI's Southern Conference rivals. "That was a little tough when Dad's team came to Lexington, but it was never a problem here." The proud son noted that "Dad's first Western team was a surprise conference champion and almost beat Purdue in the first round of the NCAA tournament. Dad's always been pretty good at motivating," he added with a chuckle as he segued into the tale of a "motivational" conversation shared by father and son after the 2.0 Rat academic year.

"Basically he just let me have it. He questioned my maturity. He questioned my commitment. He pretty much questioned everything about me. I sure knew he loved me, but he wasn't liking much about my first year's performance," the chastened son remembers.

So what dramatic change did Hopkins undertake? He shrugged. "Basically I just asked myself, 'What are you doing here wasting everyone's time?' and `Why not at least try?' So that's what I did; I made a commitment to myself to try as hard as I could in everything I do."

As a young boy, "I always fantasized a career as a military officer. Once I was at VMI, though, I began to think I might like to pursue something else. I became a business and economics major." He made the transition in majors without a hitch … well, there was one hitch … a big one … but it dramatically changed the direction of Hopkins's life again.

He spent much time in and out of hospitals during his second class year fighting a mysterious blood sugar ailment that caused the loss of 35 pounds. "While I was in the hospital, I was so amazed and impressed by the health professionals that cared for me that I decided I wanted to be a doctor instead of chasing somebody else's money around."

Although unable to fill all the requirements for pre-med at VMI, Hopkins took as many such courses as possible and is going to follow the rare and difficult post-baccalaureate pre-med program at either Virginia or Georgetown. "I realize it will take me two years longer than most others, but this is something I really want to do," he said.

Given his track record, which includes a 3.97 GPA over his last three years at VMI (he got a B in a physical education class), it's easy to see Hopkins focusing on his dreams of a medical career.

And he won't need a kick in the behind this time around from his father the coach.

Ron Carter, Jr. '78 to Speak at VMI Commencement

May 20, 2000 is a date looming large on the calendar of Ron Carter. Why has the former Battalion Commander of the VMI Corps; a recipient of the Commandant's Award: All-America basketball player on VMI's greatest teams and erstwhile Los Angeles Laker; a cadet who completed his entire Rat year without a demerit; and a Dean's List Student …marked that date on his calendar in indelible ink?

Is it his 44th birthday? Is it a wedding anniversary for Carter and his wife, Darnella? Could it be a birthday for one of the couple's four children: Ron III ("RC"), 15; Paul, 13; Bria, 5; and Brooke, 3?

"May 20 is a day I've really been focusing on for quite a while now," said Carter recently as he discussed his preparation to deliver the commencement address on May 20 in Cameron Hall. Carter was chosen to deliver the address by the Class of 2000, a class that has come to know Carter well over the past 18 months. Carter has also come to know the class well, too.

"I promise you that those who are there on May 20 will leave with something to think about," the articulate Carter mused. "I couldn't even tell you who spoke at my graduation from VMI and I sure don't remember anything that was said. I hope it will be different for those there on the 20th."

Carter, who earned a MBA from Pepperdine while playing for the Los Angeles Lakers, reflected on how the wonderful relationship that has evolved between the Class of 2000 and him got off to a rough and rocky start. He recalled visiting Cameron Hall for a basketball game. "I was doing a broadcast interview, but I could hear and see some of the Corps booing their own cheerleaders. I cannot begin to tell you how much that ticked me off."

Several months later, Carter was invited to participate with the rising First Class (Class of 2000) in leadership training. "We talked about varying leadership models and ways of dealing with leadership issues. But I must admit I was still so ticked off over what I had seen at the basketball game that I picked a fight with them," related Carter.

"We had a frank discussion of the issues regarding their status as the last class before assimilation," he recalled. "I strongly challenged them to be people who build bridges and not people who build barriers. I told them we didn't want to have the same kind of public egg on our faces as the folks at The Citadel.

"I challenged them then and I'll challenge them again on May 20 to make a difference in this world; to be the very best citizen-soldiers our tradition has taught us to be. The world is changing, but VMI will change with it," Carter continued.

"My words will say exactly as I feel about a lot of issues central to all of our lives," Carter commented. "May 20 looms as one of the greatest honors of my life, and I'm enthused about the opportunity to continue to share my thoughts with the Class of 2000 on their day of great honor and achievement."

Four Faculty/Staff Honored at Retirement Parade

Two ROTC Staff also Take Review

Col. N. Michael Bissell '61

Col. Wayne C. Thompson

Col. Ronald W. Williams '64

Col. R. Terrell Wilson

Four members of the VMI family with a total of 70 years service to the Institute were honored at a retirement parade and reception on May 5: Cols. N. Michael Bissell, Wayne C. Thompson, Ronald W. Williams, and R. Terrell Wilson. Also retiring from active military service are Sgt. First Class Timothy A. Baugh and Master Chief Yeoman Keith E. Nelson.

Following a distinguished 26 year career in the United States Army and three years in a management position with Sikorsky Aircraft, Col. Bissell '61 returned to his alma mater in 1990 as the Institute's first full-time Commandant of Cadets. He relinquished those duties in 1994 and was named Special Assistant to the Superintendent. In that capacity, he served as liaison with the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) at Mary Baldwin College, library construction director for the renovation of Preston Library, and director of building & grounds. In September 1996, he was given the monumental task of chairman of the Executive Committee for the Assimilation of Women at VMI. Under his guidance, the efforts of numerous committees resulted in a level of success in assimilation that has been recognized and praised across the nation. In addition, and concurrently, he served as Commandant of VWIL. From 1996 to 1999, he was also VMI's Title IX officer for sexual harassment training and investigation and the Institute's first protocol officer, coordinating visits of numerous foreign and domestic delegations. In August 1999, he became full-time Commandant at VWIL.

Col. Thompson retires from the VMI faculty after 15 years as professor of political science and international studies. With the Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate School, and studies at the Universities of Goettingen and Freiburg, and at the University of Paris/Sorbonne, Colonel Thompson joined the VMI faculty in 1984 from Lynchburg College, where he had taught for a decade. An authority in comparative government and international affairs, he has combined his vigorous research and writing with teaching, lecturing, and extensive international travel. He led groups of cadets on study tours of the Soviet Union, East and West Germany, and Canada. In 1988, he was presented the VMI Distinguished Teaching Award. In 1989 he received a Wachtmeister Sabbatical Leave; in 1994 the Matthew Fontaine Maury Research Award; and in 1995 a VMI Awards Sabbatical Leave and a Fulbright Teaching Grant to teach in Estonia. Largely through his efforts, exchange programs were established between VMI and the Estonian Military Academy, and with the Royal Military College of Canada and the West German Federal Armed Forces University. He leaves VMI to become Chief Editor for Stryker Publications.

After serving three years as professor of aerospace studies at VMI, Col. Williams '64 retired from active military service in 1991 and assumed the duties of deputy commandant of cadets. He has held that position for nine years providing stability and continuity to the commandant's office and serving five commandants or acting commandants. Concentrating his efforts on the discipline of the Corps of Cadets, Colonel Williams has become "Uncle Ron, The Grand Guru of the Special Report," personally processing literally hundreds of cadet infractions weekly, most at home, after a duty day that often ended after 6 p.m. In so doing, he became the world's foremost authority on lame excuses. He has used his quiet, dignified, compassionate personality to establish rapport with thousands of cadets and has dispensed both grace and mercy in a manner touched with humor and affection, but never in a way to compromise standards. His search is always to uphold Corps discipline while seeking to educate and enlighten cadets and where necessary to salvage cadetships. His is not an easy task and is not designed to make him a favorite among cadets. That he has succeeded with such certainty speaks volumes about his professionalism and brings great credit to himself, his office and VMI.

Col. R. Terrell Wilson, professor of chemistry, retires following 34 years of dedicated service on the VMI faculty. He came to the Institute in the fall of 1966 after working in industry and two years in the U.S. Army, where he served with the 97th Army Band. He received the BS degree in Chemistry from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and the MA degree in Organic Chemistry from Emory University. He continued his graduate work at Georgia Tech. During his years at VMI, Col. Wilson mainly taught the fourth class chemistry sections and general chemistry for engineering majors and non-science majors. He was also the editor of the general chemistry lab manual for the department and taught a first class seminar for chemistry majors. In addition, he served on VMI's Financial Aid, Summer Reading Program, and Symposium committees, and he was the faculty advisor to the BOMB for approximately 15 years. He made extensive contributions to the community serving on the boards of the Rockbridge Area Presbyterian Home, the Rockbridge Chorus and Orchestra, the Rockbridge Concert Theatre Series, and the Fine Arts Workshop. A talented clarinetist, he has been a member of the Stonewall Brigade Band of Staunton for many years. His students and colleagues know him for his wit, patience, and sound counsel. In recognition of his talents as a teacher of undergraduate students, he received the Gene Wise Award in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering in 1994 from the Blue Ridge Section of the American Chemical Society. He is also known for his long-time residence in the Bachelor Officers Quarters, affectionately known as the "Hotel Wilson."

Sergeant First Class Baugh, who served as assistant professor of military science at VMI, retires from the Army after a 20-year career. Master Chief Yeoman Nelson, who was administrative assistant to VMI's NROTC unit for three years, retires with 30 years of service to the United States Navy.

Awards Convocation

Continued from page 1

Twenty-six members of the VMI family received honors at the annual Institute Awards Convocation held May 2 in Cameron Hall. Cash prizes accompanying the awards totaled $115,500, the majority funded by the VMI Foundation, Inc. In addition, grants totaling $6,500 were bestowed.

Among the honorees were Col. R. Wane Schneiter, who received the Benjamin H. Powell, Jr. '36 Institute Professorship in Engineering and Capt. Blair P. Turner, who received the Henry King Burgwyn, Jr., Boy Colonel of the Confederacy, Chair in Military History. Each award includes a cash prize of $37,500 to be paid in annual installments over five years.

Col. Schneiter joined the VMI faculty in 1990 after serving six years as Vice President and Director of Operations for Aqua Terra Technologies, Inc. in Walnut, Cal. He is a 1980 graduate of Utah State University with a B.S. in civil & environmental engineering and earned his Ph.D. in environmental engineering two years later also at Utah State.

Over the past ten years, he has revitalized the environmental engineering program to include an overhaul of the instruction and laboratories, introduction of new upper-division courses, directing cadet research projects, and development and teaching of two writing intensive courses. He is a professional engineer and a diplomat of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers. A well-respected teacher, he has previously been the recipient of VMI's Distinguished Teaching Award. During his tenure he has also served as adviser to the *Cadet* newspaper, member of the Publications Board, and a member of the curriculum committee for last accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges.

The Powell Professorship was established in 1980 by the late Benjamin H. Powell, Jr., VMI Class of 1936, to recognize an outstanding member of the engineering faculty. Mr. Powell was retired general counsel of Brown and Root, Inc. and the Brown Foundation, both of Houston, Texas. Powell, who earned a LLB degree from the University of Texas and a LLM from Harvard Law School in addition to his VMI degree, was the recipient of the Institute's Jackson-Hope medal for highest academic achievement over four years of study.

Capt. Turner is the first recipient of the Burgwyn Chair, a supplement to the John Biggs '30 Professorship of Military History. Capt. Turner came to VMI in 1982 and has been head of the Department of History and professor of international studies since 1990. He graduated from St. Andrews Presbyterian College in 1969 and earned his masters and doctorate degrees from the University of Florida in 1975 and 1986 respectively.

As an expert in the culture and politics of Argentina, he wrote the history of the Falklands/Malvinas War between England and Argentina in the early eighties as well as commentary pieces for the national press. His research interest in military history has led him to serve as Associate Editor of the Journal of Military History located at VMI. While at VMI, he has been active in numerous areas to include adviser to the Rugby Club, a recipient of VMI's Distinguished Teaching Award, and most recently he spent a semester teaching at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris.

Provisions of the Burgwyn Chair state that it will reside for an initial term with the head of the history department, after which time it will be cycled among deserving and qualified members of the faculty through the Faculty Awards Committee.

Distinguished Teaching Awards: These awards were presented to Lt. Col. Kathleen Bulger-Barnett, associate professor of modern languages and Col. Edward V. Daley, professor of economics and business. Each carries a $3,000 prize and an additional $2,000 grant to be used for further academic growth. Lt. Col. Bulger-Barnett was the 1996 recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award.

Distinguished Service Awards: Three members of the VMI family received awards for outstanding service to the Institute in their respective areas. Those honored were Dr. Donald K. Jamison, academic adviser for intercollegiate athletics and professor emeritus of civil engineering; Wesley L. Robinson, electronics technician; and Gabriella F. Youngblood, circulation manager for Preston Library. Each recipient receives a $3,000 stipend. Dr. Jamison is a previous holder of the Benjamin H. Powell, Jr. '36 Institute Professorship in Engineering.

Faculty Merit Scholarships: Established in 1982, these awards are presented to upper class cadets and are funded from contributions made exclusively by active and retired VMI faculty. Three awards, which include a $2,500 cash prize, are given in liberal arts, engineering, and science. The 2000 recipients are Richard H. Donahue, a third class history major from Winchester, Mass. for liberal arts; Matthew C. Frye, a second class mechanical engineering major from Norton, Va. for engineering; and John-Henry J. Niederhaus, a second classman, double-majoring in physics and history from Souderton, Penn. for science.

The Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award was given to Maj. Shawn J. Addington, assistant professor of electrical engineering. This award, which includes a $1,000 cash prize, is presented to an outstanding junior member of the faculty. Col. Bruce C. Vandervort, professor of history, received the Matthew Fontaine Maury Award recognizing the performance or promotion of research by a faculty member. The award was established by the VMI Research Laboratories, Inc. and carries a $1,000 stipend.

The faculty/cadet team of Col. Henry D. Schreiber, professor of chemistry, and first class chemistry major Justin G. Wood from Tazewell, Va. received the Wilbur S. Hinman, Jr. '26 Research Award. Created by the directors of the VMI Research Laboratories, the award recognizes superior achievement by a cadet in the performance of research and recognition for his faculty sponsor's effort to encourage cadet participation in such research. The award includes a $500 cash prize for each recipient. This marks the fourth time Col. Schreiber has received this award. He is also a four-time winner of the Matthew F. Maury Research Award, and he received a VMI Distinguished Teaching Award in 1994.

The Nathaniel W. Pendleton '22 Distinguished Coaching Award was presented to Col. James A Coale, professor of physical education and strength coach. The award includes a $1,000 prize and a $500 grant for professional development.

The Award for Distinguished Teaching was instituted in 1998. The award was suggested by members of the Corps of Cadets and established and funded by the Office of the Dean. One recipient from each of the four academic divisions is honored each year and receives a $1,000 cash prize. Selection is made by the Corps. Faculty members honored this year are: CDR John E. Riester, Jr., assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering (engineering division); Lt. Col. Holly J.

Continued on page 10

Cadet Phillip D. Hopkins, Jr. '00, (left) is this year's recipient of the Future Captain of Industry Award. The award consists of a print of General Stonewall Jackson at the Battle of Bull Run, a confederate war bond ($1000 face value with a 7 percent coupon rate) with the portrait of Stonewall Jackson and a authentic reproduction of the belt buckle worn by Stonewall Jackson. The award was presented to Hopkins on the behalf of Haley Garrison '61 by Bill Daniels '61 (right) of Bon Air, Va. The Cadet Investment Club consists of cadets who volunteer their free time to invest $200,000 of real money, given by the VMI Foundation, Inc., to gain experience in investments. The cadets make all decisions about when to buy and sell. Also at the banquet, cadet Michael P. Cortese of Hackettstown, N.J. was presented the Robert H. Wentz, Jr. '54 Award by Bill Schubmehl '54.

Symposium on Korean War to be held September 14-15 at VMI

The Korean War: 1950-2000 a 50th Anniversary Commemorative Symposium, will be held at VMI September 14-15. The symposium is sponsored by VMI and the George C. Marshall Foundation.

On Thursday, September 14, events begin at 8 a.m. Participants will attend two morning panel discussions then be the guests of honor at a parade by the VMI Corps of Cadets at 11:15 a.m. Attendees will also attend panel discussions in the afternoon. Mark F. Wilkinson, professor of history will moderate one of the morning panel discussions and Col. Paul Pierpaoli, holder of the Edwin P. Conquest '14 Chair in Humanities at VMI and the director of the symposium, will moderate one of the two sessions in the afternoon.

Friday events consist of four additional panel discussions. Three of the discussions will be moderated by: Col. Bruce Vandervort, professor of history and editor of the *Journal of Military History*; Col. Spencer C. Tucker, professor of history and John Biggs '30 Cincinnati Professor of Military History; and Dr. Larry Bland, editor of the Marshall Papers Project and managing editor of the *Journal of Military History*. Also participating in Friday's discussions will be Col. Paul G. Pierpaoli, Jr.; and Dr. Stanley Sandler, current holder of the Conquest Chair in History at VMI.

The symposium is free for cadets, students from Washington and Lee University and VMI employees. For others wishing to attend, there will be a registration fee of $35 for one day's attendance, or $65 for both days. Seating will be limited, so those wishing to attend should reserve a space and remit the registration fee by August 15. Checks should be made payable to the George C. Marshall Foundation and be mailed to the Marshall Foundation, Dept D, P.O. Drawer 1600, Lexington, Va. 24450. For more details and a brochure of the entire program, please contact the VMI Protocol Office at (540) 464-7784.

Prior to the symposium there will be showings of newsreels and several Korean War era films on the 400 level of Lejeune Hall. These will be primarily for cadets and other interested individuals. On September 5, there will be showings of newsreels (actual footage) from the Korean War era (1950-51) at 7 p.m. and a showing of "The Steel Helmet" at 7:30 p.m. On September 6, newsreels from the Korean War era (1951-53) will be shown at 7 p.m. with a showing of "The Manchurian Candidate" at 7:30 p.m. On September 7, there will be an informal panel discussion with VMI alumni/Korean War veterans at 7:30 p.m. There will also be commemorative Korean War exhibits at the VMI and Marshall Museums.

Dean of Faculty Active During Fall and Spring Semester

Brig. Gen. Alan F. Farrell, Dean of the Faculty, has been active as a speaker and author during the fall and spring semester.

Brig. Gen. Farrell read a paper on French colonialism at a Modern Language Association convention in Chicago in December. He also read papers in March on French *pidgin* language in Vietnam at the Linguistics Conference at Southern Virginia College and also a paper on Homer's *Iliad* at the *Trojan War* colloquium at Hampden-Sydney College. In April, he read a paper on *archetypes* in French popular literature to the Popular Culture Convention in Louisiana.

Articles by Gen. Farrell appearing in print are: an article on non-conventional French in the Dartmouth College journal, *Ram's Horn*; a short story in the New York journal *Rattapallax* in February; two poems accepted for publication in the veteran's journal *Incoming*; and a short story in the newest issue of *Parameters*.

Band Wins First Place in St. Patrick's Day Parade

The VMI Regimental Band and Pipes was selected as the first place winner of New York City's St. Patrick's Day Parade. The band beat out several other military bands, including Norwich University in Vermont.

The parade is a New York tradition which dates back to 1766 when Irish soldiers serving in the American colonies would hold a parade in celebration of their nation's patron saint.

Next Year's Regimental Commander is Busy Planning

Occasionally, some must wonder about the effectiveness and importance of visits to secondary schools by VMI's admission department personnel. Chance encounters on planned trips often yield serendipitous results. One such encounter started next year's Regimental Commander on the path to VMI.

During the 1996-97 school year, Cdr. Brian Quisenberry '81, USNR, associate director of admissions, had occasion to visit Mountain Brook High School in Birmingham Ala.

William M. Boulware

William Martin Boulware was a Mountain Brook senior who had some notion he might like to go to a military school like VMI or the one in Charleston, S.C. "I met Cdr. Quisenberry, and he really impressed me," Boulware recalled. "I was looking for a disciplined situation. My Dad had been an Army platoon commander in Vietnam, and I knew what the military was about." Boulware added that Quisenberry's presence and enthusiasm greatly increased his interest in coming to Lexington.

A young man of deep faith and uncluttered spiritual conviction, Boulware said simply, "God opened and closed some doors for me. I received a wonderful Marine Corps scholarship to come to VMI, and I accepted," he recalled. "I came for the summer transition program the summer before my Rat year. The first time I ever saw the Post was when I came to stay."

Pressed as to what anxieties must have accompanied his rat experience, he spoke softly but with conviction in his voice. "I didn't worry….really. I am a strong believer. I believe if I turn things over to the Lord, he will take care of the situation," Boulware said.

Col. James S. Park, Institute Chaplain, has known Boulware and worked closely with the recently announced regimental commander. "Will is a pretty serious-minded student, cadet and believer. He is very clear about his personal relationship with Christ and believes strongly that relationship has a lot to do with his accomplishments. Will is a humble young man, and is well respected by the Corps," observed Park.

"I know its hard to believe, but I really didn't know much if anything about the coeducation flap. It was only when I was here for summer transition that I realized there would be women in our class," Boulware said. "It was interesting. Our class had a big challenge, and I believe we have met it for the most part. Change occurs. That's part of life."

Boulware immediately found VMI and its traditions and rituals very attractive. "I fell in love with the regimental system. It reminded of my wrestling experience in high school, which was something I loved. Yes, the VMI experience can be a drag sometimes, but the camaraderie it builds is unavailable anywhere else. VMI is tough, but those of us who share the experience have done many things not everyone can do."

Boulware expresses his belief that the "Rat Challenge is one of the great educational experiences in the country. Each of us that goes through that is better for having done so."

Park added, "What you see is what you get with Will. He is very consistent and his deep faith gives him the strength and confidence to go down roads others might avoid. He does things and makes his choices with the idea of honoring and serving God."

Becoming intimately involved with cadre activities as a first corporal his second class year, Boulware began to reflect on many of the dynamics of leadership. "Yes, there's yelling. Yes, there's intimidation," he commented. "But there is a higher purpose. We are trying to motivate Brother Rats to come together to get through the Rat Line.

"But, it's more than that," he added with an observation not often voiced. "The Ratline is actually about learning to get through the next three years at VMI. A lot of folks off post may think things get easier after the Ratline. I don't think that's the way it is at all. If anything, VMI gets harder as time goes by."

This year, Boulware has served as a class representative to the Honor Court and as Regimental Sgt. Major. After much reflection, Boulware decided to submit his application packet to the review board. "I knew that my position as Honor Court Prosecutor – a role I truly enjoy – would have to be vacated by me if I was selected for regimental office. I just felt as though I was being called to apply, and I did."

After the rounds of interviews were completed, Boulware knew he was one of four finalists for the top regimental posts. He did not find out that he was to be regimental commander until a friend received e-mail confirming same while Boulware and his classmates were in Paris during spring furlough as part of an honors course "History of Paris."

Boulware has definite goals in mind. "We want the regimental system and class systems to work hand-in-hand. Charlie Bunting (class president) and I have already spent a lot of time talking about those issues. We need to do all we can do to bring the Corps together. We have a new commandant arriving, and that's a good time for changes, too. We've met with him and look forward to his arrival. We're working on the cadre, training the corporals and doing as much planning as we can. We are all in this together."

Faculty and Cadets Inducted to Honor Societies

Twenty cadets and three faculty members were recently inducted into national and international honor societies.

The Zeta Chapter of the international economics honor society, Omicron Delta Epsilon: first classmen Shawn M. Fisher, William S. Johnson, and Christopher L. Lucas; and second classmen C. Armistead Blanton, IV; William R. Charlet, Sean J. Collins, Drew R. Conover, Michael P. Cortese, Joseph R. Furtek, David N. Jones, Matthew U. Larrison, Andrew J. Modisett, David T. Oliver, Jonathan R.E. Pettry, Nicholas R. Pohoreskey, Kevin A. Ryan, and Brian C. Wilson.

Pi Delta Phi, national honor society in French: Col. Alan Baragona, professor of English; and Col. Paul Pierpaoli, Jr., adjunct professor of history; and first classmen Ian P. Doyle and Jeffrey P. Rhodes.

Delta Phi Alpha, the national honor society in German: first classmen Shawn M. Fisher and Nathaniel W.T. Rhodes, and second classmen Douglas T. Bates, IV, Erich C. Miller, William P. Prible, and Stephen L. Skakandy.

Sigma Delta Pi, the national honor society in Spanish: Ellen Burch, instructor of modern languages; first classmen Jeb T.M. Cox, Matthew J. Kukla, Angelica R. Martinez, Adam C. Pool, James R. Wallace, and Chadwick M. Welch; and second classmen Kevin J. Consedine, William T. Felvey, Recoel M. Mercado, Jason M. Whitaker, Adam Woytowich, and Brian M. Wright.

Eta Kappa Nu, the international Electrical Engineering Honor Society: Scott J. Kuebler '00, David N. Khalek '01, Megan K. Smith '01, and Visun Chanarat '01.

Bartlett to Participate in NCAA YES Clinic

Doug Bartlett

Successful teachers come in all types of personas: men, women, older, younger, flamboyant, quiet, loose, or stodgy to cite a few. No matter the personality, each good teacher thoroughly knows his or her subject matter and is well-versed in ways in which to present the subject and then reinforce the learning taking place.

VMI head lacrosse coach Doug Bartlett, who just completed his 16th season at the helm of the Keydet stickmen, has acquired a national reputation as a teacher. Having served as director of dozens and dozens of major summer lacrosse camps during the past 15 years, Bartlett's camps were among the first to emphasize individual instruction, including at least an hour of one-on-one work between a camper and a counselor.

For the third time in the past six years, Bartlett has been selected by the NCAA to be a participant in the "Youth Experiencing Success (YES)" clinics, which will be conducted in College Park, Md. In conjunction with the Final Four weekend.

"This is a great privilege to be selected to participate in the upcoming YES clinics. I've been fortunate to be asked to go twice before. One of the big kicks for us coaches is that we get to bring one of our players along with us to assist in coaching the hundreds and hundreds of youths who will turn out for the event.," he said.

The winningest lacrosse coach in VMI history reflected fondly. "In 1995, Jason Pifer went with me. This year Michael Meyer will be going with me. He'll have a great time." The YES clinics are sponsored by the NCAA at all Final Four locations and bring in coaches and athletes from around the country.

In addition to his work with the YES clinics, Bartlett has also twice been the head coach of the South team in the Division I North-South All-Star Game. His record is 2-0. He has been the chairman of the All-Star Game committee since 1995. "Lacrosse is such a wonderful sport. I don't mind doing anything that promotes the game. We are getting more local interest in our team, and we've got some very good players coming back and arriving next fall. There can't be any finer guys on the planet than the young men who play lacrosse for VMI. What a classy, classy group of young men we have."

Bartlett points to his lacrosse coach at SUNY-Geneseo, Dr. John Hoey, as a major influence. "Dr. Hoey was an Englishman and a graduate of Oxford. He was a great coach and an even better man. He told me real early in my college career, `If you want to excel at something and really understand it, then you've got to be able to teach it.' When I went to Geneseo, lacrosse was a brand new sport, and he was a brand new coach. But we all learned quickly because he taught us to understand what we were doing and why we were doing it," added Bartlett with admiration.

Even as a 5-9, 140-pound high school soccer player, swimmer, and lacrosse player in Baldwinsville, N.Y. in the mid-1960s, "I realized that teaching and coaching appealed to me. I was an okay athlete but never a great star. I always had a thirst for understanding the details," said the man who majored in math and later taught calculus for several years.

After graduating from Geneseo in 1970, Coach Bartlett spent the next four years teaching math and coaching lacrosse in inner-city Rochester, N.Y. "It was a real challenge, and it paid pretty well, but eventually I wanted out of the city," he recalled. He got out of the city and moved to Prattsburgh, which was "the exact opposite from Rochester. We had 530 kids in a school grades kindergarten through 12th. I bought a farm on the highest point in that county and just settled in."

In 1978, wanderlust enchanted Bartlett once more, and he made a stunning change in direction. He sold his farm and moved to Radford where he bought a food and beverage establishment. By the early 1980s, the business was well-established, and he heard lacrosse nets rustling in his mind again. He spent two years as an assistant lacrosse coach at Radford and one year as head coach. After getting out of the restaurant business, he served one year as head coach at North Cross School in Roanoke before coming to VMI as head coach in the 1985-86 school year.

"I enjoy Lexington and I love VMI. My experiences with VMI men have been awesome. When I go to clinics and all-star games, I'm proud to represent VMI," he concluded.

Among those cadets honored at the April 24th Publications Board Award banquet were (L to R) Gussie Lord (Bruce W. Undercoffer '76 Award for poetry); Wilson Mustian (Editor, Sounding Brass); Todd Kennedy (Editor, Cadet newspaper); Kendra Russell (David B. Jordan '93 Award for tireless efforts in publishing the Cadet); Stan Midy (Col. John E. Townes '07 Award for highest achievement in service and leadership, Cadet). Featured speaker for the banquet was Mr. Jack Bogaczyk, sports columnist for the Roanoke Times.

Men's Track And Field Wins 14th Southern Conference Title

Marcus Lynch wins Most Outstanding Performer Award
Kevin Solomon named Freshman of the Year

Third classman Marcus Lynch of Baltimore, Md. won two events and eleven other Keydet men earned All-Southern Conference honors to lead VMI to their 14th Southern Conference Men's Track and Field title at the 2000 Southern Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships, held April 21-23, in Boone, N.C.

Lynch won the 100m dash with a time of 10.65, beating fellow Keydet Quez Smith by just .07 seconds. He also squeaked out the 200m title with a time of 21.32 and was a part of the champion 4x100 meter-relay team. Lynch also finished second in the long jump (24' 04 1/4") and was on the second place 4x400 meter relay team. His performance totaled 32 points for the Keydets thus earning him the 2000 SoCon Most Outstanding Performer Award.

Keydets who earned first place finishes in their respective events included: Kevin Solomon of Richmond, Va., first in the long jump (25' 0- 1/2"); Quez Smith of Virginia Beach, Va. (triple jump 47' 1"); John Chisholm of Riveria Beach, Fla. (hammer throw 185' 2"); Joe Smith of Livermore, Calif. (10,000 meters 32:11.14); Jeff McKelvin of Randallstown, Md. (110 meter high hurdles 14.48); and Nate Haley of Greenwood, S.C. (400 meter intermediate hurdles 52.55).

Other Keydet men who earned All-Conference performances included: Kenny Carmichael of Richmond, Va., who finished in third place in the 400m dash with a time of 48.44 and second in the 400m intermediate hurdles at 53.09; Jeff Foy of Dumfries, Va., who finished second in the 110m high hurdles (14.65) and second in the decathlon with 5,558 points; Kenny Moseley of Chesapeake, Va., who finished third in the 110 m high hurdles (14.83). Kevin Solomon followed up his first in the long jump with a third place finish in the triple jump (46' 7-1/2"); John Chisholm also followed up his first in the hammer throw with a second place finish in the shot put with a throw of 50' 5-1/2"; Tony Essig Westlake, Ohio finished second in the discus throw with a throw of 146' 5" and Tony Liberato of Alum Bank, Pa. finished second in the javelin throw (181' 1").

Overall, the men finished first out of 10 teams with 217 points. Western Carolina was second with 182 pts.

VMI head coach Mike Bozeman received the SoCon's Coach of the Year. The honor is his third in four years and sixth overall.

In the women's competition, two Keydets earned All-Southern Conference honors, Angela Vizzi of York County, Pa. finished third in the shot put (39' 4- 1/2") and Kelly Sullivan of Jackson, Ga. finished third in the hammer throw (145' 11")

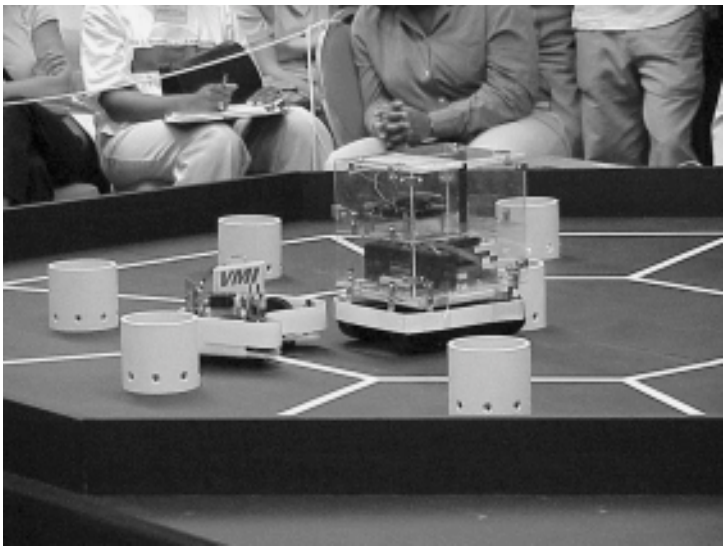
The women's team finished eighth overall out of 11 teams, with 26.5 points. Western Carolina won with 250 pts.

Cadets Receive Scholarships

First class mechanical engineering majors George A. Esteve from Springfield, and Gregory A. Bosley of Paden City, W.V., were awarded $300 scholarships by the Roanoke Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHVAE).

The cadets received their awards at a ASHVAE meeting held in Salem, Va. at the Roanoke Women's Club on April 20.

These cadets were recognized for their achivements in their course of study, their interest in the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) field, and their potential to succeed in an HVAC career. This represents the eighth year that the Roanoke Chapter of ASHVAE has awarded scholarships at VMI.



Cadets of VMI's Electrical Engineering Department placed fourth out of nineteen teams and received a cash award at the recent International Electrical and Electronics Engineers Student Hardware Contest held in Nashville, Tenn. The goal was to design a robot capable of navigating a course and placing steel balls in cylinders that were located by sensing light and electrical fields. The competition required application of material covered in most of the courses taught in the EE curriculum. VMI's entry was built by a team headed by Cadet Christopher Abbott with team members Caleb Sylvester and Andy Duncan. The robot is to be used as a recruiting tool for the electrical engineering department.

Summer Scholar Program

Four cadets have been selected to participate in the Dr. Fred C. Swope Summer Scholar's Program. The Summer Scholar's Program was developed by Col. Swope, professor emeritus of biology, and Dr. James E. Turner '65, chairman of the department of Anatomy and Cell Biology University of North Texas Health Sciences Center (UNTHSC). Selected students are exposed to the rigors of graduate school coursework and to cutting edge research.

Since the program's inception in 1991, more than 65 percent of the participants have entered graduate school or health professions schools. This year's participants are: Seth Ford '01, Melissa Williams '01, Michael Roberts '01, and Layne Fielder '02. They will spend the month of June at VMI learning about the anatomy and physiology of the retina and learning research techniques used in molecular biology laboratories. They will delve into scientific literature, analyze and discuss results, develop hypotheses, design experiments, and collect data.

A number of guest lecturers are scheduled and include Dr. Wade Bell, assistant professor of biology at VMI; Dr. Jim Burns,'68 professor of oral pathology at MCV; Dr. David Wilkinson '66, professor of pathology at MCV; Dr. Dan Felty '94, resident at Roanoke Memorial Hospital; Tom Perrault '96, Ph.D. candidate at Bowman Gray School of Medicine; Joey DuBose '96, medical student at the University of Virginia; Dr. Lee Southard '59, CEO Atrix biotechnology company; and Dr. Wayne Lambert '94, Ph.D. completed from UNC-Chapel Hill.

After the first month, the cadets will present a symposium on the first portion of the program. They will then spend July at the UNTHSC working on independent research projects. The research experiences are designed to meet the interests of the cadets and produce a publication. Over the past few years, several papers have been published with cadets as co-authors and cadets have presented results at national and regional research conferences.

The program costs are covered, in part, from an endowment established by the late Dr. William Watkins '29 and by Dr. Lee Southard '59.

On Tuesday, April 25, a bench on the VMI Parade Ground was dedicated to the memory of Michael E. Amann, a member of the Class of 2000 who was killed in an automobile accident during Christmas furlough. Located opposite Preston Library, the plaque honoring Cadet Amann was dedicated by Colonel James Park, Chaplain to the Corps of Cadets, and witnessed by several friends and family, including his parents, Isabelle and Duane Amann, and cadets (l-r) J. D. Longest, Michael Meyer, Gregory Bryant, and David Narcum.

Awards

Continued from page 5

Richardson, associate professor of physical education (behavioral science and leadership division); Col. Mike E. Monsour, professor of modern languages (liberal arts division); and Col. George Piegari, professor of mathematics and computer science (science division). CDR Riester has been honored for three consecutive years and Lt. Col. Richardson is a repeat honoree. Col. Monsour is a past recipient of both the Distinguished Teaching and Distinguished Service Awards. Col. Piegari is a two-time recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award.

The Applied Technology Award was established this year through the generosity of a VMI alumnus. Cadets, the only eligible recipients, are selected by a faculty/staff committee on the basis of the most creative and novel uses of the internet and/or applied computer technology. There is one grand prize of $7,000 and two runners-up awards of $1,500 each.

Grand prize winners were the team of second classmen Anthony P. Conway and Kukuh Suharwiyono and first classman Lei Wang. Runners-up were first classman Gregory T. Bryant and the team of third classmen Brian T. Francis and Shawn A. Joyce, and first classman Timothy M. Joyce.

Potpourri

❖ An article by **David T. Ochsendorf**, assistant athletic trainer, appeared in the *Journal of Athletic Training*, volume 35 issue 1. The article was entitled "Effect of Orthotics on Postural Sway After Fatigue of the Plantar Flexors and Dorsiflexors."

❖ **Col. A. Cash Koeniger**, professor of history, attended The Citadel Conference on the South, April 6-8 in Charleston, S.C. While there, he chaired and provided commentary at a panel session, "War and Southern Identity." One of his papers also was read by Keith Dickson '76, former commandant and assistant professor of history at VMI. Col. Koeniger also presented a paper he had written entitled "The Garnett Controversy Revisited" at the Stonewall Jackson Symposium, sponsored by the Stonewall Jackson House in Lexington on April 15.

❖ **Capt. Ken Winter**, reference librarian at Preston Library, recently published two articles in the journal *American Libraries*. The articles are titled "From Wood Pulp to the Web: The Online Evolution" and "Print is Dead, Long Live Print!"

Cadets Christopher Abbott and Christopher Lowrance placed first and second, respectively, in the Virginia Mountain Section of the IEEE Student Paper Contest. The contest involved presentations of papers relating to electrical engineering by students from VMI and Virginia Tech. Cadet Abbott's paper was entitled "The Development of Problem Definition and Design Process for Entry into the IEEE SouthEastCon Hardware Contest." He placed fourth of nineteen in the hardware contest. Cadet Lowrance's paper was entitled "Using the Internet to Improve America's Education System." Contest judging was performed by practicing and retired electrical engineers. First and second prizes were cash awards of $250 and $200, respectively.

Lt. Col. David L. Livingston, associate professor of electrical engineering, was awarded "The IEEE Third Millennium Medal ... in recognition and appreciation of valued services and outstanding contributions" by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He was nominated by the Virginia Mountain Section of the IEEE. Lt. Col. Livingston also made a presentation during Engineer's Week on electrical phenomena to the first-grade classes at Christiansburg Primary School entitled "Benjamin Franklin and Electricity."

Col. Tappey H. Jones, professor of chemistry, reviewed a book entitled *Alkaloids: Chemical and Biological Perspectives, Vol. 13* Edited by S. William Pelletier. The review appeared in the *Journal of Natural Products*, Vol.63, p 432. Col. Jones also recieved a contract for this summer from the National Insitutite of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/National Institutes of Health for $18,000 for the "Synthesis and isolation and characterization of dialkylazabicyclo(5.3.0)decanes,designated dialkylindolizidines and homopumiliotoxins." The funding will be for the preparation and characterization of a novel group of poison-dart frog toxins so that their mode of action in various biological systems can be studied.

ROTC Corner

Every spring, Air Force ROTC cadets initially qualified to fly compete nationally for pilot and navigator training slots. VMI 's AFROTC cadets overall selection rate for flying training was 83 percent compared to the Air Force average of 71 percent. Cadets Steven E. McMenamin '00, Britton L. Armstrong '01, and David N. Jones 01, will study to be pilots and Richmond P. Lykins '01 and William A. Lambert '00, will study to be navigators.

Each summer AFROTC also offers training opportunities for cadets complete with travel allowances and pay. The following cadets have been selected to participate in the various training programs.

Field Training: (Air Force boot camp for officer candidates)

Britton L. Armstrong '01 ..... Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.
Matthew R. Brooks. '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Christian E. Collamore '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Jason W. Crabtree '01 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Augustine O.E. Ekpoudom '00 ..... Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.
Travis C.J. Guidt '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Bryant D. Harrison '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Matthew L. Hylton '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Paul S. Knick '02 ..... Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.
William A. Lambert '00 ..... Tyndal Air Force Base, Fla.
Stephen F. Lee '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Traci N. Schultz '02 ..... Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.
Bryan L. Starcher '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
Timothy A. Tendall '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
David D. Troxell '02 ..... Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

Operation Air Force: (Shadow An Officer In A Specific Career Field)

David N. Jones '01 ..... Pilot/Dyess Air Force Base, Texas

Glider Training At The U.S. Air Force Academy

Nicholas P. Foster '03 ..... Colorado Springs, Col.

Free Fall Parachute Training At The Us Air Force Academy

Peter M. Choi '03 ..... Colorado Springs, Col.

The NROTC unit had one of its biggest days in recent history with its participation in the events surrounding the Puller dedication. The day started early with the arrival of VADM J. W. Craine, Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) who had a working breakfast with both staff and midshipmen. After a tour of the unit spaces, VADM Craine was briefed on the status of the unit and fielded questions by the staff.

In the late morning, the unit supported the arrival of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James Jones. The commandant and his entourage arrived by a pair of CH-46E Sea Knights at Delaney Field, and were brought up for a tour of the NROTC spaces prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Hall of Valor. After lunch with many distinguished visitors and midshipmen, the commandant presented awards to midshipman 1/C Joyce and Midshipman 2/C Boulware, both USMC option, at the dedication of the Chesty Puller Award in Cameron Hall. After a whirlwind of activities, the Commandant departed by helicopter, leaving the staff a few moments to prepare for the evenings Mess Night.

Rear Admiral David Stone, Deputy Director, Plans, Programs and Requirements, Surface Warfare Division OPNAV , was the honored guest of the Midshipmen Battalion for its annual Mess Night. The evening began with a mixer before the formal dinner, which started promptly at 1800. The dinner was punctuated by business of the Mess, which included various corrective actions for violations of the mess with most of the antics being driven by Midshipmen Allen and Ward, competing for the position of Mr. Vice. The highlight of entertainment was the VMI silent campstool drill team, whose deft performance impressed and entertained all. The evening was ended with the formal toasts of tradition, and the proceedings were closed by the President of the Mess, Midshipman Nicholas Mollenhauer.

Justin Wood Wins Howe Award

Justin G. Wood '00 was presented the James Lewis Howe Award at the April 12 meeting of the Virginia Blue Ridge Section of the American Chemical Society in Radford. The award is presented to the most outstanding chemistry graduate from each college or university in the local section.

The eighth annual Undergraduate and High School Poster Session was also sponsored by the local section during this meeting. Papers presented by VMI chemistry majors or local students included: "Molybdenum Redox Equilibrium in Soca-Lime-Silicate Glassmelts" by Justin G. Wood and Col. Henry D. Schreiber, professor and head of chemistry at VMI; "Caste Specific Venom Alkaloids from a Puerto Rican Thief Ant, *Solenopsis (Diplochopitrum)* Species" by Victor E. Zottig '01 and Col. Tappey H. Jones, professor of chemistry; "Confirmational Analysis of the 4,6-Disubstituted Auinolizidines: Preparation of the 6Z, 10Z Diastereomer" by Jason E. Co '01 and Col. Tappey Jones; and "Comparing Properties of Materials for Cookware: An Experiment for General Chemistry" by Mary E. Stokes and Col. Schreiber.

One of the featured speakers at the meeting was Col. R. Terrell Wilson, professor of chemistry.

Chemistry Majors Present Papers

Chemistry majors Justin Wood '00 and Jason Co '01 attended the April 25-30 meeting of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) at the University of Montana in Missoula, Mont. They were accompanied by Col. Henry Schreiber, professor and head of the chemistry department at VMI, and his wife Charlotte.

NCUR brought together undergraduates involved in scholarly and artistic activities representing a range of disciplines including creative arts, mathematics, business, social science, humanities, physical and life sciences, natural resources, and engineering, among others. Over 2000 undergraduates, faculty, and administrators (from more than 400 colleges and universities) met to hear and discuss undergraduate creative and scholarly work.

Justin Wood (advisor: Henry Schreiber) presented a paper on "Molybdenum Redox Equilibrium in Glassmelts." Jason Co (advisor: Col. Tappey Jones, professor of chemistry) presented the results of two joint projects with Victor Zottig '01 on "Conformational Analysis of the 4,6-DiSubstituted Quinolizidines: Preparation of the 6Z, 10Z Diastereomer" and on "Cast Specific Venom Alkaloids from a Puerto Rican Thief Ant Solenopsis (Diplorhoptrum) Species."

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Summer Session Calendar

First Five-Week Term	May 24—June 24
Registration	May 24
Classes begin	May 25
Last day for late registration	May 26
Last day to drop or add courses	May 26
Examinations	June 23—24
Second Five-Week Term	June 27—July 29
Registration	June 27
Classes begin	June 28
Last day for late registration	June 29
Last day to drop or add courses	June 29
No Classes	July 4
Examinations	July 28—29

Fall Semester 2000

New Cadets matriculate (9 a.m. — 2 p.m. — must report by noon)	Mon, 14 Aug
Old cadets return (by 10 p.m.)	Sun, 20 Aug
Registration (8 a.m. — 1 p.m.)	Mon, 21 Aug
Classes begin for all cadets (8 a.m.)	Tue, 22 Aug
Last day for curriculum and course changes	Mon, 28 Aug
Parents Weekend	Fri - Sun, 6-8 Oct
Fall FTX	Fri (CAD) - Sun, 13-15 Oct
Ring Figure Weekend	Fri - Sat, 10-11 Nov
Founders Day	Sat, 11 Nov
Thanksgiving furlough begins (CAD)	Fri, 17 Nov
Cadets return from furlough (by 10 p.m.)	Mon, 27 Nov
Classes end	Tue, 5 Dec
Reading Day	Wed, 6 Dec
First semester examinations begin	Thu, 7 Dec
December Graduation Ceremony	Sat, 16 Dec
Christmas furlough begins (Noon)	Sat, 16 Dec