Reunion Weekend
June 5-7, 2015

Get ready for a full weekend of family-friendly fun with classmates and professors on The Hill. You can even plan to stay in the dorms. Save the date and look for more information in your mailbox and online at alumni.hsc.edu.
To the Society of Founders:

Remember to save the date for the upcoming Founders Weekend at The Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort in Cambridge, Maryland, on March 27-29, 2015. After the 5:30 p.m. reception at the Regatta Pavilion, members will be free to explore local cuisine and fine dining at both in-house and local establishments. The annual golf outing will be held on Saturday morning. The small towns of Cambridge, Easton, and St. Michaels provide specialty shops, museums, and other fun activities, and the area abounds with wildlife along walking and biking trails. Charter fishing, sailing, clay pigeon shooting, and other area activities are available. You can also reserve a relaxing appointment at the Sago Spa and Salon. Saturday evening all guests will gather in the Chesapeake Room for the annual Founders appreciation dinner. A special room rate of $189 per night will be honored until February 27 or until rooms are filled. RSVP and contact Candy Dowdy for questions at (434) 223-7140 or cdowdy@hsc.edu. We hope to see you there!

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* Annuity rates and tax deductions are somewhat lower when two annuitants are designated.
ON THE COVER: Students gather around one of the fire cauldrons recently installed around campus. The Student Senate and the Office of Student Affairs thought of the idea, hoping to encourage students to socialize outside with their classmates.

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In the United States, John Hampden has slipped into obscurity. Few alumni know anything about him. But the founders of this College used his name for a reason.

He represented something that epitomized the original intent “to form good men and good citizens,” the school’s mission to this day. Perhaps by exploring his life and principles, we can grasp a better understanding of what Samuel Stanhope Smith wanted to convey to future generations when he first came home from Princeton with the idea for this eponym in the summer of 1775.

Who was Hampden? Essentially he was a man of action, a principled statesman, a soldier, and a defender of ancient and inherited rights and privileges. His blood lies on the same path that our American ancestors walked to secure our liberties in 1776. To remember Hampden is to reflect on our own history. It is a history of struggle and sacrifice, of war and power, that refined many of the principles on which our own Constitution is based.

Hampden emerged on the pages of history during the disputes between the kings of England and Parliament during the 17th century. These feuds led to the English Civil Wars, fought from 1642 to 1649, which at first resulted in a commonwealth, then a dictatorship, and finally a restoration of the monarchy—but with major changes in the relationship between king and Parliament. Hampden was a major figure in the House of Commons, serving in each of the Parliaments from 1621 until his battlefield death in 1643.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT

The English central government in the 17th century was an intricate web of governing bodies. Parliament held both legislative and judicial powers. The king held executive powers, along with some legislative and judicial ones. The courts were multi-faceted and semi-independent; some argued that they should have been free from royal influence, and yet to others they were “the lion under the throne.” The church was also woven into the central government, with the king as head of the Anglican Church of England and a number of bishops sitting in the House of Lords. Bribery and favoritism were common, and jurisdictions and the separations of powers were sometimes unclear. As G.E. Aylmer put it in A Short History of 17th-Century England, according to modern standards, the British government was “ramshackle, inefficient, wasteful, and corrupt.”
The monarch was restrained in at least three respects, according to E.N. Williams in *The Ancien Régime in Europe*. First, under common law, Parliament could impeach the king’s ministers in the course of their duties, and members of Parliament were free from arrest during Parliamentary sessions; also, individual citizens could issue writs of *habeas corpus*—which required prisoners to be brought before judges to decide their cases—as protection from arbitrary arrest, and they were entitled to a trial by jury. Members of Parliament were also permitted to speak freely during sessions. Second, Parliament alone, in theory, had the power to change laws and authorize taxation. Third, the British Isles’ isolation from the continent provided little need for a strong, central executive authority, often needed to direct the military in cases of invasion. In England, therefore, local authorities had much latitude in enforcing—or not enforcing—taxes and regulations handed down from the central government. Without money from Parliament to raise an army, the king often needed local cooperation to enforce his prerogatives.

The king could, however, call and dismiss Parliament at will. He was sovereign and, according to many, ruled by the divine grace of God as His representative on Earth. He could institute church policies or domestic economic policies, such as granting monopolies, prohibiting certain exports, and establishing wage and price controls, sometimes through his ministers and by consultation with judges to confirm their constitutionality under common law practices. Sometimes he acted as the final arbiter in court cases. He could wage wars. One key power was his prerogative to collect certain taxes without consent of Parliament, a point of contention leading up to the English Civil Wars. Sometimes [Charles] acted as the final arbiter in court cases. He could wage wars. One key power was his prerogative to collect certain taxes without consent of Parliament, a point of contention leading up to the English Civil Wars.

**BACKGROUND ON HAMPDEN’S ROLE**

Upon James’s death in 1625, Charles I assumed the throne and married a Catholic, Henrietta Maria, the third daughter of King Henry IV of France. Many Puritans in the House of Commons, hoping to “purify” the Church of England, found this marriage and Catholic influences, doctrines, and practices within the Church (“popery”) threatening to their Protestantism. They petitioned the king to remove such influence in the Church and to enforce old laws against Catholics and recusants (those refusing to attend Anglican services), efforts that largely fell on deaf ears.

Ineffectual military campaigns against the Spanish and French in the Thirty Years War further soured the atmosphere in London. Some questioned whether there were Catholic sympathies in royal circles. Also, in an effort to curb Charles’s excessive spending on a losing war strategy, Parliament refused to grant the king his lifetime power to impose Tonnage and Poundage duties on imports—one of the Crown’s primary sources of income. Parliament customarily granted the lifetime power to each new monarch, but denied it to Charles, trying to force him to request it every year. Parliament was holding the purse strings, and they wanted Charles’s cooperation on religious and military policies. Charles, however, wouldn’t cooperate.

Parliament attempted to impeach the Duke of Buckingham, the king’s chief advisor and architect of the military campaigns, a move seen by royalists as a direct assault on the king’s ancient right to rule through his ministers. Members largely viewed Buckingham as an incompetent general, a man who lost more than half of an English expeditionary force in a failed
campaign on the continent. He had been king James’s favorite as well, and in some circles was rumored to be a furtive papist.

In 1626, sidestepping Parliamentary approval, Charles I and the Privy Council, his body of royal advisors, decided to raise money through a forced loan. To acquire judicial approval, the king replaced the Lord Chief Justice Randolph Crewe with a more receptive judge. It was clear that the monarch was beginning to exceed his prerogatives. Dozens of gentry and peers who refused to pay the forced loan were arbitrarily imprisoned without trial—including Hampden.

The prisoners submitted writs of habeas corpus, and in an effort to avoid a definitive ruling on the legality of the forced loans, Charles released them. Because of the foggy legal footing of the loans, more gentry and peers refused to pay. The king continued to impose medieval-era fines, sell commercial monopolies for stakes in profits—in defiance of Parliament’s Statute of Monopolies prohibiting the practice—and to impose unapproved Tonnage and Poundage duties, among other practices.

On February 11, 1628, the Privy Council issued the first of its infamous Ship-Money writs. These writs imposed taxes on shires and towns bordering the sea, taxes that were supposed to be used solely for building ships for war and securing maritime trade. The writ had roots in ancient royal precedent, but the Council expanded the writs to include collections from all shires throughout the realm. Ship-Money writs are a classic example of taxation without representation.

The first Ship-Money writ was withdrawn after facing fierce resistance among both gentry and peers. The 1628 Parliament passed the Petition of Right, which sought redress from forced loans, from taxation without Parliamentary approval, from arbitrary imprisonment, from compulsory quartering of soldiers, and from the increasing use of martial law. The Petition was written to secure the rights and liberties that Englishmen had inherited through practice and custom. In desperate need of funds, trying in vain to quell Parliamentary fears of royal abuses of power, the king finally assented to the Petition that summer. In return, he received the money for his war efforts and personal expenses.

Puritans in Parliament, perhaps sensing their momentum, immediately renewed their push to purge Catholics and perceived popery from the Church of England. But it was the unapproved royal collection of Tonnage and Poundage duties on imports and a sense of Catholic influence in church and government that spurred the most intense resistance in Parliament. At the king’s urging, Speaker Sir John Finch attempted to adjourn the final 1629 Parliamentary session, only to be forcibly held to his chair. The doors were locked and the remonstrance against “innovation of religion” and the unapproved levying of Tonnage and Poundage were read and voted on. The session was subsequently adjourned, although the king imprisoned the leading members. Eleven years passed before Charles called the next meeting.

JOHN HAMPDEN
THE STATESMAN

Hampden had been a strong supporter of Parliamentary rights, representative government, and religious reform, and he worked to restrain royal power during the
1620s. He had witnessed early royal resistance to Parliamentary assertions of rights and privileges: in the Protestation of 1621, the House of Commons asserted their right to free speech and freedom from arrest, among other “ancient and undoubted” liberties and privileges enjoyed during Parliamentary sessions; King James personally ripped the page from the Journal of the House of Commons.

Hampden’s principles were manifested early in his career. As early as 1624, he had fought to restore the voting rights of three Buckinghamshire boroughs for representation in the House of Commons. Again, the Privy Council had him imprisoned in 1627 for his refusal to pay the forced loan. While on committee, he worked with merchants whose goods had been seized because of their refusal to pay the unlawful Tonnage and Poundage duties.

As a Puritan, Hampden was an early supporter of purging popery from the English Church and protecting Protestantism. He opposed episcopacy, or local church governance by bishops. Half of the committees on which he sat in 1628 were concerned with religious practices or doctrine in some form.

Other committees on which Hampden sat during that time provided him with extensive experience in military and financial affairs. While serving on those committees he gained a reputation as a modest, intelligent, capable, and affable gentleman. He was genuinely humble, and yet he remained stalwart in protecting the ancient rights and privileges to which he and others were accustomed. According to prominent royalist Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, Hampden spoke little, but his words were powerful and influential.

Hampden rose to national prominence when Charles I instituted new Ship-Money writs during the 11-year Parliamentary hiatus. By this new influx of money Charles sought permanent financial independence from Parliament. The writ might have had ancient precedent, but an imminent danger or military emergency was needed to justify the tax. Charles and others argued that only the king could determine what constituted a “military emergency.” Despite England’s neutrality in the continental war, Charles pointed to the strength of French and Spanish navies, as well as Dutch infringements on English fishing waters around the coast, as threats to English security. With some legitimacy, he also pointed to the Muslim Barbary pirates of North Africa, who had been raiding English and Irish villages and ships, kidnapping and enslaving thousands of British subjects. There was no large enemy navy, however, so many believed Charles was merely mining for new sources of income.

Facing growing opposition from peers and commoners alike, the king sought and acquired judicial approval from sympathetic judges. And yet of the first writ, less than half of the money went to the navy.

The Privy Council extended the Ship-Money writ and doubled the tax in 1635, now to include inland shires, not just coastal towns and counties. By the time of the third Ship-Money writ, issued in 1636, it was clear that the king could issue the writs arbitrarily, during peacetime, and that he had finally found a judicially approved means for financial independence from Parliament.

But Hampden, the wealthy landowner and former member of the House of Commons, refused to pay the 20 shillings required of him. The government took him to the Court of Exchequer Chamber, arguing, on the theory of the king’s divine right to rule, that the king
alone could determine a national threat as justification for Ship-Money writs, and that to defy the king would undermine the very foundation of English monarchical government.

Hampden himself outlined the main points of his defense. Oliver St. John, Hampden’s attorney, argued before all 12 common law judges. Ship-Money writs had largely been discontinued since the 14th century, he said. The Magna Carta and the Petition of Right were clear in prohibiting the king from raising taxes beyond standard royal revenue practices without Parliamentary consent. Also, there was no evidence of an impending foreign invasion, the country was at peace, and the king had had years to call a Parliament if he truly needed to raise money to stave off foreign military threats. In essence, Hampden was arguing for taxation only with representation and against arbitrary rule, trying to fend off a royal attack on an inherited right of Englishmen. The result of the case would have far-reaching effects on the extent of popular control over royal power. It is no wonder then that “the nation regarded, with the utmost anxiety, every circumstance of this celebrated trial,” as David Hume wrote in *The History of England*.

In the end, seven judges ruled in favor of the government, and five in favor of Hampden. But such a narrow margin of victory was in effect a moral defeat for Charles. As Hume wrote, “The people were roused from their lethargy, and became sensible of the danger, to which their liberties were exposed.” Both nobility and gentry saw Ship-Money writs as royal attempts to overthrow the constitution of the kingdom and a threat to the concept of private property,” as John Adair wrote in *John Hampden The Patriot*. More subjects refused to pay the tax. Puritan pamphleteers distributed critical literature. By 1640, the navy was receiving only one-third of the Ship-Money requested. The people were beginning to weigh in on their ancient and inherited rights, and it was a composed, courageous, and gentlemanly John Hampden who had tipped the scales.

**THE COMING WAR**

In an attempt to force the Anglican-based Prayer Book on the Scottish Presbyterian church, Charles I and Archbishop William Laud inadvertently united Scottish nobles, gentry, and commoners in open defiance against the Crown. In “defence and preservation of the aforesaid true religion, liberties and laws of the kingdom,” a great many Scots signed the National Covenant, swearing to uphold their own religious liturgy.
Charles called Parliament to raise money to wage war on the Scots. Hampden took a leading role in the debates. Sensing Covenanter sympathies and a possible prohibition on using the army against the Scots, Charles dissolved what became known as the Short Parliament. The king arrested Hampden and four others to search for papers linking them to the Scots, although none were found among Hampden’s correspondence.

But later that year, Hampden and other opposition leaders did contact the Scots, assuring them of support. In August 1640, a force of 25,000 Scotsmen invaded northern England, then blackmailed the king, threatening further invasion unless they were paid. Charles made peace with the Covenanters, bought more time, and called his final Parliament that November.

John Pym led the ensuing Long Parliament while reportedly “much governed” by Hampden, as Adair remarked, and so in this way “Hampden may well have been the true architect of the English revolution.” Even the royalist Clarendon admired Hampden and saw him as the leader of Parliamentary opposition in the time before the war. Hampden led debates, swayed members, and garnered support with his keen mind and natural warmth. He was honest and direct, and according to some contemporaries was the most popular man in the House of Commons.

The king attempted to make peace with Parliament on all fronts. But Pym and others were determined to “pull down the cobwebs” to restore the rights of Parliament and restrain the king. One of the first orders of business was to impeach Thomas Wentworth, the Earl of Strafford, who was the former Lord Deputy of Ireland and the king’s new chief advisor. Charged with subverting fundamental laws of England and Ireland, as well as undermining the rights of Parliament, Strafford was eventually beheaded under a bill of attainder.

In an effort to appease Parliament, the king had reluctantly signed the death warrant despite his assurances to Strafford of his safety. The king could no longer protect his own ministers.

Over time the king gave more ground. Parliament passed bills requiring they meet at least once every three years; judicial courts tied to the king were abolished; Ship-Money and monopolies were declared illegal; certain royal fines were eliminated; and there were new restrictions on Tonnage and Poundage duties. The king agreed to the demands. Peace was made with the Scots and Charles received the money he needed to pay them off.

Fearing royal use of the military to subdue Parliament, the House of Commons tried to remove the army from the king’s control, first by proposing he disband it, and later by asking the king to appoint counselors of their choosing to lead and direct it in the form of a Militia Bill. If he refused, they would raise their own army—a bold assertion of authority over the king’s Trained Bands, as the militia was known.

The king subsequently issued arrest warrants for five members of Parliament, including John Hampden. All fled. Calls for Parliamentary privilege against arrest rang in the House of Commons. Later emerging from hiding, the five members were met with cheering crowds and declarations of loyalty, with thousands vowing to protect Parliamentary privileges. The king called for volunteers and sent his queen to Holland to raise money and soldiers, and Parliament started raising a militia and moved to secure military arsenals and forts.

The king had given enough ground, he believed, and so refused further compromise. “You have asked that of me in this that was never asked of a king,” he said. “[I] would no more part with [the militia] than [my] crown.”
HAMPDEN THE SOLDIER

Despite fruitless attempts to reach peaceful accords throughout the summer of 1642, it was now clear that bloodshed was inevitable. Parliamentarians, largely Puritans, were fighting for religious reform and their view on the traditional balance of government, to include Parliamentary and individual rights, and restrictions on kingly power; and royalists, largely Anglican, were fighting in loyal support of their king, who believed Parliament was grasping at powers it had never held.

Under the generalship of the Earl of Essex, Hampden raised his regiment of Greencoats in Buckinghamshire, consolidating his forces with Bluecoats, Purplecoats, Redcoats, and other Parliamentary regiments. Hampden led his regiment from the front, and his courage on the battlefield showed in 1642, when his regiment first proved itself by repelling a cavalry attack on an artillery train in the Battle of Edgehill.

It was here that he first fought the brash Cavalier Prince Rupert, Charles’s nephew and commander of the royal cavalry.

His natural leadership and ability to persuade were as apparent in the army as they had been in the House of Commons. Both bodies listened to him. Indeed, as Adair described, “Hampden had become the chief link between Essex and [Parliament].”

His reputation in the army became legendary. After the Siege of Reading, for example, the Greencoats were disheartened and morale was low. The besieged royalists were allowed to leave upon surrender, and the troops had been unpaid for many weeks. In May 1643, they refused to march.

“With good words and fair language, [Hampden] wrought so upon them that he made them ashamed for their actions, and they marched cheerfully to Caversham the next morning,” said Sir Samuel Luke, the Scout Master General at the time. Hampden exhibited a keen ability to act on his principles while inspiring men to do the same—a mark of true leadership.

HIS DEATH

In June 1643 Prince Rupert led a raiding party of 1800 men and horse out of Oxford to harass Lord Essex, camped largely at nearby Thame. Riding through the night, Rupert raided and ransacked smaller outposts, only to alert larger forces at Parliament’s encampment.

Upon hearing of the raiding party, Hampden was without his Greencoats, but asked to commandeer a troop of horse belonging to a certain Captain Crosse. As Adair recalled from Parliamentary accounts of the event, “The officers and common soldiers freely and unanimously consented, and proffered to adventure their lives with this noble Gentleman, and shewed much cheerfulnesse that they could have the honour to be led by so noble a captain.”

Despite facing a superior force of cavalry, Hampden pursued the prince, “carried on by his fate,” as Hyde later said. Rupert first laid ambush on the road back to Oxford, but then turned to meet Hampden in a field near Chalgrove. The two forces were separated by a dense hedgerow, but the Cavalier prince nonetheless charged upon the Puritans while hundreds of other royalists crashed into Hampden’s flanks. Hampden and his men held their ground, shocking the Cavaliers with a “spirited opposition.”

It was at that time, overwhelmed by royalist forces on all sides, that a Cavalier rode up behind Hampden and shot him in the back with a double-loaded pistol. With two balls planted deep behind his shattered shoulder, Hampden
slumped in his saddle, barely able to trot off the field while holding on to the neck of his horse. The Cavaliers continued their onslaught, driving the Puritans from Chalgrove. Hampden made it to Thame, holding on to life for six days before succumbing to his wounds.

HAMPDEN THE MAN
Parliamentary forces eventually defeated Charles and his Cavaliers. Parliament at first was going to reach concessions with Charles and at one point considered establishing a new constitutional monarchy. But the army, incensed at the prospect of keeping Charles on the throne, purged the House of Commons, arrested members, established the Rump Parliament, and had Charles beheaded. It was an imprudent regicide that led directly to a miserable dictatorship under Oliver Cromwell. Some have speculated on how this might have been averted had Hampden lived.

His principles are worth reviewing. Hampden was no radical. He would not have agreed with the Leveller faction and other extremist groups that emerged soon after his death, some of whom considered the Magna Carta merely a “mess of pottage.” He was largely concerned with preserving the inherited rights of Englishmen and ordering English government in accordance with common law traditions. Never did he advocate the dissolution of the monarchy, nor did he advocate the imposition of untried and abstract individual rights later popularized during the French Revolution. He fought Charles not on the notion that he was a king and therefore despotic by nature, but rather because he believed Charles was attacking religion and undermining the fundamental laws of the land.

It is perhaps these qualities and beliefs that the founders of Hampden-Sydney College recognized on the eve of the American Revolution. Much like Hampden, one might argue, Americans were fighting to preserve their inherited rights as Englishmen from an overbearing English central government. Calls for “no taxation without representation” rolled over the hills of Virginia in 1776 just as they had echoed through the streets of London during the Ship-Money trial in 1635. “What an English King has no right to demand, an English subject has a right to refuse,” as Hampden put it. Our own Constitution holds the same common law principles of government for which Hampden was fighting in the 17th century: protection of habeas corpus; legislative freedom from arrest and speech during sessions; the right to trial by jury; legislative powers of impeachment; exclusive legislative control over taxation; exclusive legislative control of making, amending, and repealing laws; separation of powers; and checks and balances between branches of government. Our legal and constitutional heritage runs deep into English history, and it may serve us to think on the importance of maintaining these inherited principles, a course which so many believed was worth preserving, more than their own lives. That alone is reason enough to remember the man.

But who was he as a person? Neither rash nor reluctant, he held fast to his beliefs and virtues, even when faced with arbitrary imprisonment and physical destruction. His natural warmth and humility made him a natural leader. “A man so religious, and of that prudence, judgment, temper, valour, and integrity, that he hath left few like behind him,” read the papers soon after his death. Both his friends and enemies marveled at his wisdom and rapport in Parliament. The Whigs considered him a martyr. John Adair likened him to Winston Churchill. Even the royalist Clarendon at length described his “universal esteem, courage,” and the “national admiration for his character”; he was “a supreme governor over all his passions and affections.” His friend Arthur Goodwin, who knelt by his deathbed, knew him as “a gallant man, an honest man, an able man, and take all, I know not of any man living second.”

Hampden is worth remembering because he was one of us. His life and death define the very spirit on which this country and College was founded. Not only was he a man of principle, but he was a man willing to die for his principles. He was a good man, but he was also a man who inspired others to be good. He is a model for modern men. He was, in a sense, the original Hampden-Sydney man.
Constitution Day and the First Amendment

ANGUS KIRK McCLELLAN ’05

On September 17, 2014, in honor of Constitution Day, Dean of Faculty Dr. Dennis Stevens led the on-campus discussion Religion, Politics, and the First Amendment: Seeking a Balance.

He focused on the five interpretations of the establishment clause, the two interpretations of the free exercise clause, the idea of the “wall of separation” between church and state, and the related Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc. (2014) Supreme Court case.

THE ESTABLISHMENT CLAUSE

The religion clause of the First Amendment reads: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

In the first interpretation, “the establishment clause prohibits the National government from federally supporting a single church or religion,” Stevens said. This appears to be the simplest, most literal interpretation.

In the second interpretation, the “establishment clause prohibits the National government from extending direct aid or support to any or all religious sects or organizations.” The problem with this interpretation, as Stevens said, is that the National government did exactly that in the early days of the republic, directly supporting Christianity in a number of ways: Money was allocated for a congressional chaplain; in 1803, “Congress appropriated money to support missionaries to convert the Indians.”

Fourth, “the establishment clause allows indirect aid to religion or religious organizations, as long as it is not discriminatory.” In historical support of this interpretation is the Northwest Ordinance of 1789, which, in short, allocated money for schools that were then religiously oriented, and set guidelines and parameters for U.S. territories to follow before applying for statehood. Congress, in promoting good government in the territories, allocated money for schools “with the understanding that it would support religion and morality”—incidentally.

The fifth interpretation is the “separationist view,” which “prohibits the national government from providing any direct or indirect aid or support to religion or religiously affiliated institutions,” he said. This interpretation was extrapolated from a letter that Thomas Jefferson wrote to John Tayloe in 1805: “A union of church and state...is to be deprecated.”
wrote in 1802 in which he mentioned a “wall of separation between church and state.” This letter was essentially the only justification for the majority ruling in Emerson v. Board of Education (1947), in which Justice Hugo Black not only used Jefferson’s words as a basis for the separation between church and the National government, but he went against Jefferson’s states’ rights philosophy (and for that matter, the Court’s unanimous decision in Barron v. Baltimore [1833]) by ruling that there was also a wall of separation between religion and State governments through the doctrine of incorporation.

What were once State and local affairs, to be handled by the people living in their particular and distinct communities, are therefore now decided by a majority on the Supreme Court and uniformly applied to every citizen and community in the country.

THE FREE EXERCISE CLAUSE

The National government lacks the power to prohibit the free exercise of religion, according to the second clause of the First Amendment. Stevens outlined two interpretations—a broad one and a narrow one—of that clause.

“Basically the argument is,” in the narrow interpretation, “if you have a valid secular law that was not passed with the intention of attacking religion, and it incidentally affects religious practice, then the courts are under no obligation to grant religious exemption. They can choose to grant religious exemption, but Congress is not obliged to do so.”

His example was the case Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye, Inc. v. Hialeah (1993), in which the court ruled that the Hialeah, Florida, city ordinance forbidding citizens “to unnecessarily kill, torment, torture, or mutilate an animal in a public or private ritual or ceremony not for the primary purpose of food consumption” was unconstitutional, as it directly attacked the church’s religion.

The broad interpretation is that “the court has a duty under the free exercise clause to grant exemption to religious practitioners or organizations from secular laws which adversely affect them,” said Stevens.

The court returned to the narrow interpretation in Employment Division v. Smith (1990), a case in which two Native American drug rehabilitation counselors were fired for ingesting the hallucinogenic drug peyote as part of a ritual in their Native American Church. Consuming peyote is illegal under Oregon state law. The law deprived Native Americans of their use of peyote only incidentally, and so the court ruled against the Native American counselors.

THE HOBBY LOBBY CASE

The issue in the Hobby Lobby case was whether the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which overturned the Smith decision, protected Hobby Lobby from the Affordable Care Act, which could require businesses to provide health insurance for employees that included certain types of birth control—some of which disrupt or abort pregnancies rather than prevent conception.

“These are devout Christians at Hobby Lobby,” said Stevens, “who close their stores on Sundays, costing them millions of dollars. It’s not for PR.”

In the end, the court struck down the government’s requirement in favor of Hobby Lobby, but it left the main question unanswered as to whether the court supports the broad or narrow interpretation of the free exercise clause.

Stevens ended the discussion with four conclusions: The Constitution clearly did not establish a separation of church and state; the Supreme Court undermined the original purpose of the religion clauses by applying the Bill of Rights to State powers through the doctrine of incorporation; the Supreme Court avoided taking a stand on the one issue that matters in the free exercise clause; and “the Founders thought that religious rights are not fundamentally secured by the Supreme Court interpreting the First Amendment, but by a vibrant, commercial republic characterized by a multiplicity of interests and sects. The Founders taught us more than anything not to bend on parchment rights.”

Dr. Stevens holds a Ph.D. from Boston College, and he taught political science for more than 15 years before turning to college administration.
Testing for Our Future

ANGUS KIRK McCLELLAN ’05

Students and faculty in the Physics and Astronomy Department and the Mathematics and Computer Science Department have been given an unusual opportunity.

They will investigate energy monitoring, energy conservation, and sustainable housing in a grant-based project on campus. Steven Huff ’73, chairman of TF Concrete Forming Systems, has given the College $150,000 to build the Energy Research Laboratory, a 26’x45’ structure that will feature advanced building materials and technologies. Students are tasked with developing new software, hardware, and temperature and power monitoring devices in an effort to test the functionality of the building and their own equipment.

The laboratory is built with methods and materials similar to those of Pensmore, or “think more,” a 72,000-square-foot château in Highlandville, Missouri, which Huff is erecting as an exhibition of the company’s technology. Its strength lies primarily in its walls: 1-foot-thick insulated molds are filled with concrete mixed with twisted, 1-inch-long steel “helixes,” which provide strength and flexibility to the concrete and uphold structural integrity in tornados and earthquakes. The walls also exhibit excellent thermal mass—they can hold fairly constant temperatures over extended periods of time. A geo-thermal heat pump delivers heated or cooled water through tubing inside the walls, which then keeps the interior of the structure at comfortable temperatures.

The ultimate objective of the H-SC project is to test the wall’s thermal mass by maintaining proper temperatures inside the building with minimal energy-input using sustainable resources, in this case solar power and local ground water.

Five students are working on the project so far: Caleb Bowyer ’15, Zach Carter ’17, Peter Clark ’14, David Foulke ’16, and Jim Woodward ’15. Professors Stan Cheyne, Paul Hemler, Walter “Mike” McDermott, and Hugh “Trey” Thurman are helping the students. During the academic year and over the...
summer, they developed software and hardware for measuring and recording power levels and temperatures. They also built a website that automatically receives, stores, and displays information transmitted from the temperature and power sensors at the building site.

Bowyer designed and built a solar panel water heater, which uses sunlight to heat the water that flows through the tubing inside the walls. He incorporated a water pump to create a closed-circuit system monitored by thermocouples, or temperature gauges. He overcame a number of temperature-regulation problems in the system, as well as difficulties in water flow rates and pressure.

Carter and Clark worked primarily with power and temperature sensors, building circuit boards and configuring the WiFi to transmit the information to the server. In his online journal, Carter posted weekly updates on his progress, describing in more detail the work needed for his system to operate properly. For example, he reprogrammed the WiFi shield and separated temperature and power codes to run on different circuit boards.

Foulke was the front-end website developer, creating “the things you see and click on,” he said. Because of the nature of the website and its requirement to interact with the server to display the information, Foulke had to learn four different computer languages, none of which are covered in the standard curriculum at Hampden-Sydney.

Woodward worked on the back-end of the website, setting up the server’s infrastructure to receive and process information sent from the temperature and power sensors. The data were transmitted via WiFi. He had to connect the server to the circuit boards that Carter built and configured, and he had to work with Foulke to get the website functioning properly.

As Huff said at the groundbreaking ceremony, “It’s the kind of project that depends on an interdisciplinary team, a small team of creative thinkers to have a significant impact.” Experiments will continue for many months. With record-cold temperatures across the country and government restrictions on traditional energy sources, the need to find cost-effective and energy-efficient technologies for both homes and commercial buildings is helping to drive the evolution of building technologies.

“Forty percent of energy consumption in the United States is used by buildings,” Huff said, and “half of that is used for heating and cooling.” By having a hand in shaping these emerging sciences, students are gaining insight and experience that will help their future careers and help power our future.

To view the students’ work and progress on the project, visit: http://cslabfs.hsc.edu/erg/homepage.html.
Professor Stanley Cheyne led physics students interested in government military testing to Hi-Test Laboratories in Arvonia this past October.

Before naval equipment is installed on ships, it needs to be tested to ensure it can withstand years of wear and violent shock. Just an hour north of the College, Hi-Test is one of only two private companies in the U.S. that has the machines and equipment needed to perform this testing on some of the largest units that eventually end up on our warships.

contractors build the equipment according to government standards and then send it to Hi-Test for rigorous trials to test its structural and operational integrity. Ships’ propellers cause vibrations at various frequencies, some of which may cause equipment to break or stop functioning, and warships need to continue operating even if mines, torpedoes, depth charges, or other forces send shockwaves through the hulls.

Hi-Test performs heavyweight shock testing in old slate quarries that have filled with water. The extreme depth of the quarry holes is ideal for testing, as the initial shockwaves and their reflections from the bottoms of the holes are easily distinguishable on monitoring equipment. Units are bolted to fixtures and large steel decks, which are lowered by crane into custom-fabricated barges. The barges are then pulled out into the middle of the quarry holes, where High Blast Explosive (HBX) charges are set at varying depths and distances from the barge. Accelerometers are attached to the equipment and fixtures to monitor g-forces.

Students also viewed the large vibration table, essentially a 29,000-lb. aluminum box that rests on four stout airbags. An internal steel axle with hanging adjustable weights rotates at different speeds to create various frequencies of vibration.

Other discussions on the tour included instructional reviews of torque, potential energy, kinetic energy, as well as in-depth examinations and demonstrations of medium-weight and lightweight shock machines. Some students may explore possible summer internships at Hi-Test to gain a better perspective on their future careers in engineering or Defense Department testing.
An HBX engulfs a covered barge in the quarry hole.
President Emeritus and retired Lt. General Samuel V. Wilson in an official portrait
In the spring of 2006, General Samuel V. Wilson visited a combined session of Professor James Arieti’s “Advanced Readings in Greek” and “Humanism in Antiquity” classes to discuss Homer’s Odyssey and its continuing relevance to the challenges soldiers face when they return home from war. General Wilson responded to questions with his private memories and general reflections.

Dr. Arieti would like to thank General Wilson, Professor David Marion, and Angus McClellan for their help in preparing the transcript for publication in this and the previous October issue of The Record of Hampden-Sydney College.

ON HOMER’S ODYSSEY AND COMING HOME FROM WAR

THE DISCUSSION

JAA: Odysseus travels to the underworld, where he sees the souls of some of his dead comrades. In this episode, Homer seems to be bringing up questions of how veterans carry the weight of friends’ death in war and after war. In some cases, they may feel responsible for the death of a comrade, as does Odysseus for Ajax. In other cases, they may feel that a better man than they has died. What is the effect of “survivor guilt” on veterans? Does it manifest itself in moral pains, self-reproach, self-criticism? And do we ever find veterans who feel a total absence of any of these responses? And what kind of people are they?

SVW: Very quickly to that last question. Yes, there are some like that, and I think it’s because they want to put the pain out of their minds. But there are many, many soldiers who have been in close combat and who have lost buddies, and from what I have seen and experienced, the bond that develops among soldiers who are sharing the experience of combat, of facing death together, is probably one of the strongest human bonds that we could find under any circumstances. As a member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, I go to its annual meeting. I’ll see two old veterans looking at each other across the hotel lobby. One will scream out a nickname and say, “Ug,” and the other one will say, “Ugly, G-D you,” and they’ll run and grab and hug and cry, because the last time they saw each other, one was being taken back on a stretcher and the other one was stumbling forward. And neither knew how it turned out, and so when they come back together, you can see just how intense that feeling was that they had for each other. They tremble from that feeling.

Now that bond—when you lose a buddy—it’s like losing your father, your mother, your brother, and your sister—kind of all together. It is a tremendous blow. And if somehow, when you look back over it, there is something you see that you might have done that could have kept that individual from being killed, or, if he was killed doing something to keep you from getting hurt, that simply deepens your anguish.
And so in Homer these are all like real life. We may be talking about circumstances from over two millennia ago, but they are as real today as they were then. And so these are true, vital, valid, real questions. I’ve heard soldiers many, many times saying, “You know, I don’t know why he got it and I didn’t. He was so much a better man than I. Why it didn’t hit me, why it got him, I’ll never know. I’ll never understand it.” And so they anguish over it, they think about it, they talk about it, and for many of them it remains on their minds for the rest of their lives.

**JAA: Is there something that the army or the Veterans Administration does to help people cope with the problems that they have?**

**SVW:** Oh yes. They have psychological, psychiatric consulting services and so on. They get people together in groups to talk this out. And soldiers often will cross the continent to visit the family of their fallen buddy—which is a wrenching experience in itself. But it also gives them a little bit of a feeling of closure. The important point when you are suffering from this kind of trauma is that you want to reach the point where, as we say, you get a rope around it and arrive at some form of closure so it is not an open wound that is hurting you all the time.

**JAA: Does the psychiatric counseling work?**

**SVW:** Somewhat. It works in some instances very well, and in some instances moderately. In some instances it has no effect at all. It varies. The incidence of helpfulness is high enough to justify its continuance.

**JAA: Is this [counseling] something that happened just recently? I can’t imagine that it happened after the Civil War or World War I, or maybe even after World War II.**

**SVW:** I think it began happening only a little bit after World War II, a lot more after Korea, especially when we had a number of people who had been taken prisoner and who had undergone Communist indoctrination. We used the term “brainwashing,” if you recall. We were concerned to help a man get his mind refocused and on the proper compass azimuth. I guess it’s out of this that we get the Manchurian Candidate and that kind of story. And so it’s mostly after Korea that this picked up, and it has been very, very important since Vietnam and subsequent wars.

**JAA: We can think how hard it must have been for people in Homer’s time or previous wars when there was no help whatsoever. Odysseus didn’t even have the Odyssey to help him to see that he wasn’t alone. It probably helped others.**
SVW: Yep. They had it much harder than our returning soldiers. There is no question. For them, I guess, the main source of anguish and getting rid of some of the garbage in their minds and hearts was the love of the family. You can return to a family that still loves you—you know, they’re glad to see you and you’re fully accepted and so on. That’s the best surroundings, atmosphere, in which to begin to get well.

JAA: Does it happen that some who were too young or too frail or too old to fight feel that they have missed something significant and spectacular, and do they therefore feel a sense of envy for the returning veteran—that he has lived something great that they will never experience? And does he in turn envy their innocence, that they have neither harmed nor been harmed as he has?

SVW: The answer is “yes” and “no” to questions one and two. Those who were too young to participate in a war, as they hear the stories and become aware of the returning veterans and learn what has happened to them and learn the story of the war itself, tend to have a little bit of a feeling of having been left out, and so… I was talking to a lad today at lunch in this same area. We were talking about Merrill’s Marauders and Burma and so on, and he was reading the book.

And he said, “I’ve read the book with mixed emotions. I don’t know whether I would be willing to go through that or not. I asked myself a question—would I volunteer and go through that kind of experience?”

And I said, “Well, how did you come out?”

And he said, “I still don’t know.”

And I said, “But you would like to have it in the past tense, behind you, as part of your experience, wouldn’t you?”

“Oh yes,” he said. “I’d love that.” [SVW laughs].

So that’s real. That part is real. I think there are young men who “didn’t make the cut,” so to speak, and for whatever reason, largely age, envy those who went and came back. At the same time, they will never know for themselves whether or not they could have faced danger and remained whole. As far as the veteran himself is concerned, I don’t believe that he envies them. He says, “You’re lucky that you didn’t have to go through it.” But once he’s returned and has it behind him, there’s a sense of pride in having survived that awesome experience.

JAA: Your lunchtime companion reminds me of something when it comes to foreign languages. Students would very much like to be in the position of knowing a language very well; they just don’t want to study it and go through all the trouble of learning it. [SVW laughs]. And, I guess, we can’t blame them.

There was in the ancient world a word, epigoni, that we still use in English, and it refers to the generation that lived after a famous incident known as the “Seven against Thebes.” There’s a play of Aeschylus by that name. And the children of the heroes known as the “Seven against Thebes”—the children being the ones known as the epigoni—[thought that they] could never live up to what their fathers had done, that somehow they were doomed to a life less glorious, that all of the great deeds had been done in the generation before them. So I’m thinking that the younger brothers, who were just a year or two too young and so missed the war, have that sense of being epigoni, of having come after the great deeds were done. I remember feeling that way about some of my professors when I was a student. They had discovered everything. There was nothing more to be said. But sure enough, there were other things to be said, so you don’t have to worry about not living up to your fathers’ generation. There’ll still be more things to do.
Let’s get to the next question. When Odysseus returns at last to Ithaca, he must contend with people who hate him and wish that he were dead. These are the suitors and some of the parents and families of the men he commanded who did not come home. In the *Odyssey*, it takes the intervention of a god to restore peace in Ithaca. Is antipathy of those back home also a danger to the returning veteran? You mentioned this before in the case of those coming back from Vietnam. And the other part of the question is, if it does exist, how can it be overcome?

**SVW:** Vietnam, I think, becomes an exception in terms of the public attitude toward the returning soldier, as far as American history is concerned. It was rare indeed in World War II to encounter antipathy, although on occasion you did. I was a captain when I came home. I had been in some of the most savage combat that we underwent in World War II. There were three thousand of us who started out on this campaign. Much later, when the campaign was ended, there were approximately one hundred soldiers still in the line fighting. The rest were either dead, wounded, or evacuated for a whole variety of diseases. We got a lot of publicity. Because of the exposed nature of my duty as one of Merrill’s reconnaissance officers, out front screening the movement of his force, I was always encountering the Japanese before the rest of the outfit did, so by simply surviving, actually, I wound up with a handful of decorations—because I was in such high danger, practically all the time. And arithmetically, mathematically, I have to make the case that I should never, never, never have survived, that the law of averages should have run out for me a long time ago. But it didn’t.

Anyway, when I came home, I got a lot of publicity nationally and at the state and local level. And I found that there were people here, whose sons I had grown up with, from whom I unexpectedly encountered hostility. I heard things like, “Reed would have done as well as you did but he just never had the chance—he was killed in Italy. We’ll never get over that.” And somehow I was to blame because Reed was killed in Italy. Or I would hear, “Philander was senior to you and would have done even better than you did, but he never had the chance.” So I ran into some of that.

Now some of this has been personalized, I recognize. So it’s hardly a data point. It’s on that narrow, personal experience level.

I also recall once, when I was in uniform traveling from Fort Benning, Georgia, back up here to Virginia, I stopped to get gasoline. A car pulled up behind me and began bumping my bumper. When I got out of my car, a drunken redneck got out of his and said, “Well, Captain, you’d like to take me on, huh?” He obviously was a fellow who hadn’t gone to war. Whether he was a draft dodger or whether he was 4F for physical reasons or not, something had troubled him so that when he saw a man in uniform, it roused his ire, and he had something to prove. Well, I had just gotten out of the hospital, and I was not in a condition to fight him, and so we had to talk our way through this one in a hurry. And I had the pluck just to tell him, “Mister, I’ve been trained to kill people with my hands. So please let there
be peace between us. I wish you no harm—God loves you and I am trying to. Please, let’s not do something here that your family is going to feel very regretful about.”

And while he was noisy, I was quiet. And the very fact of the contrast between my quietness and his noisiness somehow seemed to fix him and he, quietly grumbling, got back into his car and drove away. So you encounter those kinds of things. That one probably doesn’t prove very much. There are all kinds of little examples like that that you run into.

Generally speaking, that kind of antipathy is found only from a small minority. And it is not a general thing—we don’t expect to find it every day or every week.

JAA: Let me ask you the question that we spoke about the other day; it isn’t among the ones written down. When Odysseus returns to Ithaca, he has to disguise himself as an old beggar to go into his house because he doesn’t know how he’s going to be received. As soon as he arrives at his palace, he notices his old dog Argos, who’s been there lying on this trash heap for twenty years, missing Odysseus. Although Odysseus is disguised, Argos smells him, sees him, his ears pop up, he moves his tail, and then he dies of joy. The episode indicates several things: that Odysseus, even though he is in disguise, can still be recognized, at least by his dog. It also indicates a relationship with an animal that is different from the relationship with the people left behind. You come from a farm… did you have any kind of animal experiences analogous to Odysseus’ with his dog?

SVW: Absolutely, absolutely! I had that kind of experience in combat with my horse, as well as at home, when I came home. The dog has a sense of smell which is five hundred times more detailed and accurate and powerful than a human olfactory sense is. So, yeah, Homer is right. The dog was probably blind at twenty years old, but he could certainly tell from the smell: “This is he. I’ve been waiting for him.”

When I went off to war, I had had a German shepherd that I raised from a puppy, Mike. And I slept in an old doctor’s office out in the front yard, and Mike slept in the med-room with me, and we’d sit out there by the fire in the wintertime and listen to the radio. I was strumming my guitar, and give him little tidbits, and I’d get my clarinet out—except that he didn’t like that very much. He’d begin to howl when I’d start playing. Anyway, we were close—we kind of grew up together. When I came home and he spotted me, he literally knocked me flat on my tailbone in the front yard, he was so excited. When he smelled me and heard my voice, he came like an express train—ram—and then was straddling me and licking my face. That’s how he felt. He wasn’t twenty years old, so he didn’t die of a heart attack at that point, but that was his response.

I stayed at home for about ten days, and then I had to leave. And that was very, very hard for him to take. In fact, as the days passed and I did not come back, he disappeared there on the farm. My folks didn’t know where he was. Then several weeks later, an old woodcutter who used to cut firewood over by the Norfolk and Western Railway, now the Norfolk Southern, told my father, “I believe I know what happened to your dog. I was down by the railway, cutting myself some firewood, and I heard a dog howling. And I looked up and there was this huge German police dog standing there right between the rails along the railway track.” He said he was kind of skinny and emaciated but still a great dog—black and silver. And he said, “I could hear a train whistle in the distance. And the dog’s ears pricked up and he began

“And arithmetically, mathematically, I have to make the case that I should never, never, never have survived, that the law of averages should have run out for me a long time ago. But it didn’t.”

LT. GEN SAM WILSON

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to get kind of excited, and then I could hear the train coming. It was the 4:30 Pocahontas.” (That was a crack train that came whistling through here at about sixty miles an hour at 4:30 in the afternoon, called the Pocahontas.) “When that dog saw that train in the distance, he began to run toward it. And he ran straight into the train and destroyed himself.” Then he said, “That was the first time I ever saw a dog commit suicide.”

So that to me illustrates the fact that [animals can be] more than our pets—they are our best friends. Particularly it’s the dogs, but I’ve got a fondness for cats, too. I have a dog right now, and I feel the same way about him, and he feels the same way about me. I had a hard time leaving him this morning. He loves to come out and lie down in my room and go out here to campus and chase squirrels. But I can only do that on weekends when I’m relaxing. So that’s a real question, too, Jim, and an important one. And that too is an emotion that can be both draining and sustaining, depending on what the circumstances are.

JAA: We have a couple more questions. What we’ve done is mingle some of them together. There might be some overlap in some of the questions.

In Book I of the Odyssey, Athena describes Odysseus as forever trying to “wipe all thought of Ithaca from his mind”:

But he, straining for no more than a glimpse of hearth-smoke drifting up from his own land, Odysseus longs to die … [Tr. Robert Fagles]

From this description it seems that although Odysseus is trying to forget Ithaca, thoughts of home are pushing him to the brink of self-destruction. But the thoughts of home, of his wife, of his kingdom, are what give him the strength to endure. How do soldiers cope with ambiguous feelings towards their home? Should a soldier forget his former life and focus on the war at hand, or should he allow thoughts of home to enter his mind with potentially harmful side-effects? If a soldier forgets his former life and returns, is it better? How does his forgetfulness affect his former life?

SVW: In my experience, when a soldier’s mind—like most soldiers’ minds—is filled with thoughts of home on a continuing basis, you rarely can shunt them aside. If in World War II you had asked a soldier in North Africa or in Italy or in the Ardennes, “What are you fighting for?”—trying to get him to give you some lofty goals toward which he is fighting and risking his life—he would answer, “To get this over and go home.”

And that in itself can be interpreted, I believe, as a patriotic statement because home, to him, is a place of security, mutual love and respect, a place of relative law and order, a place where he has an opportunity to better his condition, and so on. We take these and express them in more lofty terms, but home to him embodies all of these things and more. And that’s what he’s fighting for. So, rarely indeed does he put them out of his mind. And obviously there are soldiers who had unhappy homes or no homes, so they have to have something else, some surrogate, for that.

But the well-trained soldier has been so indoctrinated for the shock of combat, which is like having lightning striking all around and the world exploding in your face, that he automatically, when given certain commands and signals, carries through as he was taught and drilled to do. And that is what saves him
when otherwise he would be simply frozen in fear, and either do nothing or do the wrong thing. And that’s what training means. And if he is capably led and has had that kind of training, it is unlikely that thoughts of home, however homesick he may get from those thoughts, are going to negatively influence how he handles himself under fire. This is the one instance where I don’t find my experience parallels what Homer is talking about. I didn’t have an ambiguous feeling about my home. I went through three wars—in one way or another—and had thirty-seven years of military service. And there was always a little blue pin in my map which pointed to a farm twelve miles from this campus on which I was born and raised and to which I eventually returned.

JAA: I think that question perhaps should be combined with another one. Where Odysseus really feels those thoughts of home is principally when he is on the island of Calypso. He’s a sort of prisoner of war—he is on an island in the middle of nowhere, and he has no hope, really, ever, of going home. And so this will be the prisoner of war question. Does a prisoner of war have this sense of trying to forget his home?

SVW: That’s a different kind of circumstance. And it seems to me that in this case, what he is trying to do is find something in his mind that can take the place of thoughts of home because he has given up on ever seeing home again.

JAA: Yes. You had no experience of this.

SVW: No.

JAA: There’ll be one more question, and then we’ll let the students ask questions at will. This last question concerns the soldiers who died on the road home, and I’ll read the question as it was submitted: “It is given that casualties are expected in combat. But how are casualties and fatalities that occur outside combat different for soldiers to handle, say, in mop-up or post-combat operations? The one that applies most to our class are the casualties that occur on the trip home. Is it harder to deal with casualties on the trip home like those which affect Odysseus’ crew, and if so, why is it harder to deal with them? Can you compare how families of different soldiers might handle the deaths when the soldier dies in combat or from an accident or sickness or dies on the way returning home, in a boat accident or in some other way?”

SVW: I think, at bottom, the catastrophe is certainly sensed as such—the individual who has survived the dangers of combat and then either has died from an illness or arrives home and the first morning home gets hit by a beer truck and flattened into the pavement and dies there. That’s so ironic and so—people would say—unnecessary. It happens. And it is much, much more difficult for a family and loved ones to come to grips with that kind of death taking place in the context of war. The soldier who dies in combat, or as a direct result of combat, can be considered, at least by many, as having died for a cause, as having given his life for something, which he and his loved ones may consider more important than life itself. So there comes from that a kind of a justification for the sacrifice. But when it is needless, like the result of a drunken driver killing a returning soldier, it is much more difficult to find emotional closure. It is much, much more difficult in my experience.

JAA: Well, these have been our formal questions.

SVW: [To a student]. Sir.

Mark Tassone ’08: In the Odyssey, all of the deaths that occur are the result of close
hand-to-hand combat with spears, swords, and sometimes bows and arrows. I’m wondering: is the psychological effect of such close hand-to-hand combat—being able to stare into the eyes of your enemy—different from being at least the distance of a gun?

SVW: That is really an excellent question. And in this case I can form a qualified answer because I’ve known it all three ways. I’ve known it hand-to-hand; I’ve known it with a rifle at close range; and then I’ve known it using mortar fire or, later, artillery fire on an enemy position when I really couldn’t see what was happening. It’s different in each instance. The most difficult one is the hand-to-hand combat that Homer is telling us about, where you see the dazed eyes of the man who is dying because you’ve just stuck a knife in his gut. That’s about as personal as you can get. When the individual is as far from here as Eggleston Hall [the former College library—about sixty yards away from where General Wilson is speaking] and you have a bead on him as he’s beginning to move, and you see him crumple and fall—that’s a little more impersonal. And if he and his buddies are on that ridge-line over there by about Cushing [a dormitory about four hundred yards away] and you are back here with 81mm mortars you have to give a barrage and you see a number crumple and fall—and you have to see that with your field-glasses—that’s even more impersonal. Each one of these is a different emotional experience. The intensity is highest close-up and less intense when it’s at a distance, almost as though you were looking at a movie or a painting or something.

JAA: Let me ask a follow-up to that. In Homer, warriors on both sides speak the same language. Before a hand-to-hand combat, they speak to each other, hurl insults at each other. And sometimes, when one is dying, he asks to be ransomed and not killed. This wouldn’t happen in modern wars, where the people don’t speak the same language.

SVW: I think there have been instances, maybe not in all wars but in the three I’ve been involved in, where an enemy at the last instance gestures with his hands up and says, “Kamerad, I give up.” In some instances he was too late; in other instances, he threw down his weapon and was taken prisoner. That’s a very, very delicate moment—to turn off that finger which is already tightening, curling on the trigger, by simply saying [gestures with his hands up], “I surrender.” That is rare. That happened in World War I and II, of course, where it got very, very personal from trench to trench.

JAA: You mention that sometimes you couldn’t stop the trigger finger. Though we’re not discussing the Iliad, allow me throw in an Iliad question. As Achilles sends his friend Patroclus into battle, he says, “I want you to keep the Trojans away from the ships, and then I want you to come back.” Patroclus is unbelievably successful, but he keeps going. He wards the Trojans off from the ships, but he can’t stop fighting because he’s on a roll—he’s so victorious. And so he disobey that particular order, and he gets killed—because he went too far.

I discussed this with the students here. I compared Achilles to an archer who shoots an arrow, and the arrow is just about to hit the bull’s eye, and the order to the arrow is “stop, and come back.” It’s unnatural, and analogously, I think it would be unnatural for a person who’s on a roll just to stop. And that’s how Homer portrays it. He has Patroclus violate
Achilles’ instructions. Is that true to life?

SVW: Absolutely, absolutely. It’s true to this extent. This rarely happened in World War II—it happened from time to time when we had to send men to charge in with fixed bayonets. When men are charging an entrenched enemy with bayonets, and all of a sudden the whistle blows and says, “Halt,” it’s pretty hard to check that momentum. These guys are locked in, and they are so frightened, and so imbued with the necessity to continue on, it’s going to take some real shouting, some real noise, to stop them. So that hair-trigger point is a real one. And it’s a dangerous one, which says, “You’d better know whether you really want to carry through with it or not before you launch it.”

Student: General Wilson, what difference does it make that Homer’s generals were all hand-to-hand fighters whereas the generals of today mostly communicate their orders to other officers as the fight goes on?

SVW: It’s technology, of course, that has caused that. Probably Homer’s generals, because they had hand-to-hand combat, had a keener sensitivity for what it is like at the point of a spear than a four-star general in the rear, looking at a bunch of maps or charts or his television screens and being briefed on the course of battle and trying to decide what to do the next day.

What that general has to be careful about is that he does not reach the point where he begins to suffer from a myopia, where he really doesn’t see the field of battle in as realistic terms as the old-fashioned general who was closer to the front. Some of our more famous generals in our immediate past history, in the last hundred years or so, have been those who pushed themselves to the front—Patton being a case in point. And the famous Marine Corps general, a Virginian, who died—[Student: Chesty Puller] Yes, Chesty Puller—another case. These were commanders who commanded forward. Each general officer of a major formation has a forward CP [i.e., command post] and a rear CP. The real combat generals practically live with their forward CP’s up as close as possible to the battle as they can. Those who are kind of political generals tend to spend more time in their rear CP. The first division CP, for example was “Danger Forward” and the rear CP was “Danger Rear.” This is how you knew which one was which.

JAA: Well, thank you very much for talking with us.

SVW: My pleasure.
REMEMBERING THE AXEMAN

Francis “The Axeman” Randolph (right) died in 1997, spending his entire 83 years at Hampden-Sydney. He lived down the dirt road just past Seminary Cemetery on Via Sacra. That road, which now leads to the observatory and the new Energy Laboratory, was recently named “Francis Randolph Lane” in his honor.

Generations of students remember seeing him walk through campus with a ruffled hat slanted on his head and a felling axe tucked under his arm—an appearance that could sometimes startle the uninitiated. In later years, he carried just the axe handle or a walking stick. His business was cutting wood in exchange for meals or money, often walking to family homes near Mercy Seat Baptist Church to offer his services.

Elliot Professor of Economics Kenneth Townsend remembers giving him lifts up to the gas station across from the Finch House in Kingsville. He recalls “Mr. Randolph as a constant, going back to the 1940s I believe, a almost omnipresent fellow on campus.”

More unusual than eccentric, he was almost legendary among the students. Some say that when offered a nickel or a dime in jest, he would take the nickel, appearing to mistake the size of the coin for its value, but in fact would be hustling the boys five cents at a time. Water and

THE HIGHEST HONOR

William T. “Bill” Saunders ’60 (above, center) was recognized at Homecoming 2014 for his long and faithful service to the College. During halftime of the football game, he was presented with the Alumni Citation, the highest honor the National Alumni Association of Hampden-Sydney College bestows.

The citation is awarded annually to dedicated alumni of the College who embody the characteristics of “humane and lettered men” in their lives and in their outstanding support of Hampden-Sydney College. It is a testament to their contributions to the continuing mission “to form good men and good citizens.” The citation recognizes contributions of service to the College, support of its activities, financial commitment to the future of the institution, and, above all, a steady demonstration of the excellence that is the hallmark of the Hampden-Sydney man.
DEPARTMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The first departmental scholarship for a Bachelor of Arts degree at Hampden-Sydney has been established for the English Department, which will confirm the award in the spring of 2015. The $5,000 Thomas Edward Crawley Scholarship is available through application to juniors who have declared English as their major. Faculty members in the department will choose the recipient based on their own criteria, which may include GPA ranking, individual potential, or upcoming projects or internships that need funding. Financial need will be a consideration, and the Financial Aid Office will determine how the scholarship funds are administered. The College hopes to create a new scholarship for each department based on this same model.

The Crawley Scholarship emerged when English major J. Mark Burris ’76 and history major W. Birch Douglass III ’65 wanted to honor Dr. Thomas E. Crawley ’49 and commemorate his life and work.

“J. Mark Burris ’76

W. Birch Douglass III ’65

W. Birch Douglass III ’65

Deans of Students David Klein ’78 and John Ramsay ’05. On Saturday afternoon, for example, students had to use rope and rods to move buckets of water in ways that required communication, teamwork, and compromise—
basic skills that some young men have yet to master, according to Mathes.

Among other activities, the group learned the correct way to build fires—a particularly timely workshop in anticipation of “Light the Night,” an inauguration of the new student fire cauldrons recently installed outside residence halls. In general, however, students just got away from technology and distractions to learn more about being good and decent men, following the group’s mantra of leading lives of “honesty, integrity, and principle.”

**DICTIONARY GIVEAWAY**

On December 4, 2014, President Christopher Howard and Mrs. Barbara Howard (left) carried on the dictionary giveaway tradition started by former H-SC President Walter M. Bortz III and Mrs. Lorraine Bortz in 2001.

Second-grade students in Ms. Carr’s class at Prince Edward County Public Schools were treated to dozens of copies of the *Children’s Illustrated Dictionary*, written by John McIlwain.

**RUGBY FIELD DEDICATED**

Before John C. “Johnny” Ellis ’70 came to Hampden-Sydney, there was no rugby team. There was no field, no players, no coaching, and not even in England, where the sport was invented, was the sport of rugby generally recognized at colleges and universities. But in 1968 Ellis, with the help of Paul Reiber ’70 (now chief justice of the Vermont Supreme Court), started the rugby movement at the College, and for the past 45 years he has remained a leading advocate and financial supporter of Club Rugby, among other College sports programs. This past Homecoming, to celebrate his generosity, talents, and leadership, the College named the playing field “Ellis Rugby Pitch” in his honor.

Rev. William E. “Willie” Thompson opened the ceremony with a thanks to God for “guys and dirt,” a recognition of both Adam’s creation and man’s affinity for the muddy sport. Dean David Klein ’78 spoke on Ellis’s dedication to the creation of the field and the club, as well as his support of the College through the Ellis Family Scholarship. On behalf of the board of trustees, John L. Gibson III ’82 presented Ellis with a framed photograph of the field and sign. Thanks to Ellis’s support, rugby will remain a sports fixture at H-SC for years to come.
SONS OF ALUMNI IN THE CLASS OF 2017

The following are legacy students, freshmen at Hampden-Sydney whose fathers also attended. They enjoyed a lunch in their honor during matriculation.

R. Brooks Apperson
Virginia Beach
Eric Edward Apperson ’85

Jacob A. Beekman
Vinton
Leon S. Beekman ’88

George S. Bennett
Lynchburg
Herbert M. Bennett ’83

J. Benjamin Collie
Mechanicsville
John Charles Collie ’86

Jacob R. Duncan
Williamsburg
Gregory Duncan ’77

J. Cole Gayle III
Richmond
John Cole Gayle, Jr. ’76

P. Thomasson Kelley, Jr.
West Point
Paul T. Kelley ’82

Patrick D. Kline
New Cumberland, PA
Robert P. Kline ’87

J. Dalton Mitchell
Williamsburg
Brian M. Mitchell ’91

William S. Moore, Jr.
Powhatan
William Spurr Moore ’78

T. Broun Munford
Richmond
Charles Munford ’82

Jon S. Pace
Atlanta, GA
Jon A. Pace ’82

E. Whitaker Reed
Farmville
Randy Wayne Reed ’82

Parker T. Smith
Jefferson
Michael A. Smith ’77

James A. Zambetti
Charlotte, NC
Kirk A. Zambetti ’90
Football Wins Ninth ODAC Championship

The Hampden-Sydney football team became the first in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) to win back-to-back championships since 2005 as the team won its ninth championship overall and the fifth in eight years, finishing the regular season at 7-3 overall and 5-2 in conference play. Additionally, the 2014 season marks the sixth time since 2007 that the Tigers have advanced to postseason play in the NCAA Division III Football Championship.

Tigers Host Ninth Annual Roundball Club Tip Off Banquet

Hampden-Sydney recently hosted the Ninth Annual Roundball Club Tip Off Banquet at the Country Club of Virginia in Richmond.

This annual event is held to celebrate Tiger basketball, to develop fellowship among the Tiger faithful, to acknowledge the 2014-2015 Tiger basketball squad, and to kick off a new year of Hoops on the Hill. The event, spearheaded by Tiger alumnus and proud supporter Dave Wilson ’63, welcomed more than 200 attendees to the Westhampton clubhouse.

The banquet started off with a welcome from Wilson, followed by the invocation from team manager Jonathan Wade ’15, and then dinner. H-SC Head Coach Dee Vick ’94 gave his coach’s remarks and introduced each team member before bringing the main attraction on stage in guest speakers Greg Burton of ESPN 950 and Jay Bilas, a college basketball analyst for ESPN.

Bilas, Burton, and Vick discussed several items ranging from basketball in general, to Bilas’s experiences with ESPN, and to life lessons and experiences in a conversation-style format; they also took questions from the attending audience.

It was another great night for Hampden-Sydney basketball. The leadership and support of the Roundball Club gives the H-SC Tiger basketball program the support and resources necessary to compete with the best programs in the country.

Hoops Opens Season on ESPNU

Hampden-Sydney basketball rolled to a 73-41 win against the United States Coast Guard
Academy on ESPNU in the Armed Forces Classic in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, on November 14, 2014.

The two-hour trip from San Juan to Aguadilla turned interesting midway through the ride when the Tigers enjoyed a high-speed police escort, with vehicles bobbing and weaving in between traffic, even driving off-road at times. A cellphone clip of the escort was aired on ESPNU during the first media timeout in the first half.

The police escorted the Tigers to their first destination, the hotel for the Louisville Cardinals and Minnesota Golden Gophers, where Hall-of-Fame Louisville Head Coach Rick Pitino gave an inspiring speech to the team. The team next headed to the United States Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen for the game in the hangar of the base. The temperatures exceeded 80 degrees, but the heat didn’t hamper the basketball team’s performance in the afternoon.

The Tigers’ full schedule can be found at www.hscathletics.com.

**Ryan Turner Named ODAC Rookie of the Year, Seven Earn All-ODAC**

Hampden-Sydney soccer freshman forward Ryan Turner ’18 was named the ODAC Rookie of the Year, and seven student-athletes were named to the All-ODAC team.

Turner was also named All-ODAC Second Team. He led all freshmen in the league in points (18) and goals (7). Turner’s 18 points were good for fourth overall in the ODAC, and his seven goals tied for third. In ODAC-only games, he checked in second in points (15) and goals (6).

**Davis Carter ’15** was the Tigers’ lone representative on the First Team. A central back, Carter served as the foundation of the defense and often marked each opponent’s top offensive threat. He helped forge a defensive unit that recorded seven shutouts and allowed one or fewer goals in 13 of 18 matches. The 17 goals they allowed were the fourth fewest in team single-season history.

**James Lawrence ’15** joined Turner as a Second Team forward. Lawrence totaled 13 points, five goals, and three assists. His five goals ranked him 10th in the ODAC, and he also had the third-most game-winning tallies in the league with three. Lawrence scored both goals in a 2-0 win at Randolph-Macon.

H-SC put four student-athletes on the Third Team: forward Robert Kerby ’16; midfielders Costin Gergory ’16 and Liam Hogan ’17; and goalkeeper Cameron McFarlane ’16.

Kerby ranks sixth in the ODAC in points.
(17) and third in goals (7) along with three assists. He also kicked in three game-winning scores to rank third. He ended the season strong, scoring five goals in the last five games, including two against Bridgewater and two against Washington & Lee University in the ODAC Tournament.

Gregory proved a lethal creator in the midfield as shown by his five assists, good for sixth in the ODAC. He played some of his best soccer late in the year, recording four assists from October 17-25 in three key wins for the H-SC Tigers.

Hogan had a breakout sophomore campaign as a starter after coming off the bench primarily as a freshman. He contributed 16 points, six goals, and four assists for the year. He was especially impressive to start off the season, scoring a goal apiece in four of the first five games, and he also had a big day against Bridgewater, posting a season-best four points on a goal and two assists.

McFarlane was a repeat selection on the third team and continued to show why he is one of the top goalkeepers in the league. He was fourth in the ODAC in goals against average (0.90), fifth in save percentage (77.6%), and second in shutouts (7). He recorded a season-high 11 saves in a 2-2 tie with Virginia Wesleyan on the final day of the regular season to clinch the #4 seed for H-SC. He also made nine saves in a 0-0 tie with Randolph.

Number 31 Ryan Turner ’18 was named the ODAC Rookie of the Year.
As we enter a new year, I am writing to provide you an update on the H-SC Alumni Association. Fifteen months ago, we began to formalize many of our alumni programs and restructure the Alumni Association. We have undertaken this work with a desire to better serve and engage you in the life of Hampden-Sydney, and I’m eager to report on our progress.

The purpose of the Alumni Association is to connect alumni with the College, the faculty, the students, and each other. It is our goal to maintain an open line of communication between the College and H-SC alumni, to represent alumni in our work with the College, and to promote the general welfare of the College and the Alumni Association.

To date, we have accomplished the following:

1. Established a formal board of directors for the Alumni Association, comprising seven officers, 21 board members, a trustee representative, a faculty representative, and a student representative. Directors serve three-year staggered terms. Alumni representation currently ranges from the Class of 1970 through the Class of 2010 with members representing 15 different alumni chapters.

2. Updated the Alumni Association bylaws outlining the purpose and duties of the association and board members

3. Developed an Alumni Chapter playbook outlining a step-by-step process for running successful alumni chapters and events

Projects and initiatives currently under consideration by the Alumni Board include:

1. Decide how to broaden our scope beyond geographic clubs to include common interest and professional networking groups for H-SC alumni (such as entrepreneurs, attorneys, educators, fly fishermen, etc.)

2. Develop an annual Alumni Leadership Summit to provide an opportunity for alumni volunteer leaders to convene on campus for training and collaboration

3. Establish an H-SC National Day of Service during which alumni would volunteer in their local communities in groups or individually

4. Study how to effectively formalize a mentoring program between alumni and students

5. “Support a Tiger”: establish a program to promote alumni-owned businesses and services

6. Develop an Alumni Speakers Bureau that would enable faculty to call on alumni to share our expertise in the classroom

7. Determine how best to upgrade the video conferencing and streaming capabilities of the College for the benefit of the students, faculty, alumni, and trustees

8. Explore how to effectively formalize a mentoring program between alumni and students

We are considering all of these ideas and more, and we look forward to many great opportunities for engagement in 2015. We also want to hear from you. What are your ideas? What would you like to see your Alumni Association do? How would you like to get involved?

In January, we will welcome James Barton ’06 back to campus as our new director of alumni relations, and we look forward to working with him to move the Alumni Association forward. Increased alumni participation will greatly benefit the College—your College—and we hope you will participate in this important upcoming work.

When asked “Why Hampden-Sydney?” prospective students or their parents will often mention the strength of the alumni network.
The alumni network is one of the crown jewels of Hampden-Sydney College, and each of you play a critical role in the maintenance of this asset. Stay connected with your classmates and professors. Just because we have graduated doesn’t mean we should forget the individuals who were critical to our growth and helped mold our character. Hampden-Sydney is not a “four years and done” experience, but a lifelong connection, a brotherhood. Take the time to reach out and reconnect.

Reconnecting may be as simple as an e-mail, a phone call, or lunch. Take the call from a student looking for information on internships or occupations. Patronize alumni businesses and promote your fellow alumni.

I call on alumni to put an oar in the water to help move our boat forward. As with all families, there will be times when we disagree with each other. We should never lose sight of the big picture, however, of upholding the values of this great institution that we call home, well after graduation. What can we do to make it better? What can we do to help a fellow brother, professor, student, and the College?

Don’t be a spectator—participate.

Go Tigers!

Bill Howard ’77
President
Hampden-Sydney Alumni Association

At a recent alumni dedication event, Director of the Wilson Center retired Lt. Col. L. Rucker Snead III ’81 (l.) spoke on the front porch of the Wilson Center for Leadership. On November 8, 2014, the front porch of the center was dedicated in honor of a great friend of the College, Raymond B. Bottom ’51 (r.). First elected to the board of trustees in 1973, Ray served for 33 years and was named Emeritus status in 2006. Ray has supported multiple programs, building projects, and deserving students through scholarship funds.
Alumni and donor parties in New York, Washington D.C., and Richmond brought former classmates and their families together toward the end of 2014. On Friday, December 12, 2014, members of the Richmond Founders joined together for their annual Christmas party at The Jefferson Hotel. The party celebrates members of the Society of Founders. Here are some of the pictures from this latest event.
Rev. Louis A. “Skid” Skidmore ’64, one of the oldest freshmen to ever enter Hampden-Sydney, attended the Homecoming football game this past October. A special guest at the Stadium Lounge, Skid had fallen ill just before his class’s 50th reunion and had been unable to visit with his old friends and neighbors. He was able to catch up and reminisce with the Hampden-Sydney community at the football game, however.

In August of 1960, Skid rented a house in Black Bottom with his wife and son, entering Hampden-Sydney at the age of 34. He had taken advantage of a trust fund in which anyone who wished to enter into the ministry could do so on full scholarship, as long as he attended Hampden-Sydney or Davidson College and then Union Theological Seminary in Richmond.

Having always dreamed of playing college football, Skid joined the team as a 230-lb. lineman. As one of the “scrubs,” as he said, Skid didn’t play until the Bridgewater game in October. Members of the staff were reportedly concerned that “the old man” would get injured playing against such younger opponents, and rightfully so. Halfway through the game two Bridgewater players cut him off at the knees and knocked out one of his teeth.

Skid spent the rest of his time at Hampden-Sydney focused on schoolwork and his family. He preached at local churches and worked with a youth group. He graduated cum laude in 1964 with a Bachelor of Arts degree and later attended Union Theological Seminary.

LAWRENCE H. HOOVER, JR., recently retired as a practicing attorney in Harrisonburg.

WILLIAM T. “BILL” SAUNDERS was recently honored by three separate organizations. He was named the Wells Fargo Volunteer of the Virginia Peninsula. This year he was also recognized as Board Member of the Year for the Boys and Girls Club, an honor given to only one board member in both Virginia and Washington, D.C. In addition, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Boy Scouts of America for the Virginia Peninsula Area.

CHARLES CRIST recently spearheaded the transfer of control of the UVA-Culpeper Hospital, on whose board of trustees he serves, to the University of Virginia. He also serves as the chair of the board of the newly created Culpeper Wellness Foundation.

JOHN M. “MIKE” REID was one of 15 new shooters to participate in the 32nd Annual Grand National Waterfowl Hunt in Maryland. Former Vice President Dick Cheney was also a new shooter.

H. WATTS STEGER III was elected president of The Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University. He is the chairman of the Bank of Botetourt in Virginia.

BOB MANN FARMER recently celebrated his sixth year serving as managing director of Asset Preservation Advisors (APA), which manages assets for high net-worth individuals.

ROBERT P. “RICKY” RICHARDSON has been named to the United Way of the Piedmont’s board of directors. He is a senior vice president with Morgan Stanley.

C. THOMAS EBEL was recently selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America publication. He practices bankruptcy and creditor-debtor rights as well as insolvency and reorganization law for Sands Anderson Law Firm in Virginia.

Dr. JOHN E. BRUSH, JR., has been chosen to serve on the Cardiology Board of the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is a professor of medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School and practices cardiology with Sentara Cardiology Specialists in Norfolk.

PHILIP A. HALEY was named president and CEO of the United Way of Danville-Pittsylvania County.

Dr. WILLOUGHBY S. HUNDLEY III recently finished his third novel Elemental Danger, a story about an investigation into radioactive contamination from mining operations.

WILLIAM F. MEEHAN III was elected to the board of trustees at the Rehoboth Beach Public Library, in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, where he will serve a five-year term.
George McKinley Lee, one of the longest-serving employees of Hampden-Sydney, died September 14, 2014. He worked for the College in food service, as a custodian, and as a painter for more than 50 years, repeatedly being called back to the College for his experienced help during his retirement. He was known as a hardworking, kind, and honest man who enjoyed gardening and working on his cars. He also enjoyed community work as a member of the Prince Edward Elk Lodge #269.

Lee was born in Farmville on April 10, 1932, and was a member of New Hope Baptist Church in Keysville. He played bass and six-string guitar in a number of bands and with the church, often appearing in his signature suit, hat, dress shoes, and sunglasses. He leaves behind dozens of children, grandchildren, and extended family. His friends at Hampden-Sydney will remember him fondly.
1991

ROBERT HURT recently won his reelection bid for the 5th Congressional District of Virginia. He garnered 61% of the vote.

JOHN H. MELTON was recently named the new head of Fuqua School in Farmville.

1992

EDWIN L. WEST III was a partner with Brooks Pierce, a business law firm in Wilmington, North Carolina. He practices both civil and criminal law.

1993

JAMES CHARLES HICKEY III recently transitioned from a successful 20-year career in the fly fishing industry to a real estate career with REMAX/Obsidian, in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. His new job still allows time for fishing and bird hunting with his wife, Kim.

1995

EDWARD DUDLEY PAYNE was recently featured in the online newspaper FauquierNow.com for his return to photography in Fauquier County.

1997

JOHN ALASTER LOVE was appointed the vice president of oil and gas at Transplace, a third-party logistics transportation company.

CLAY L. DOHERTY (right) graduated as part of the first cohort of the Corporate International Master’s (CIM) Program in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on October 31, 2014. Clay was awarded an Executive Master’s in International Business, a Corporate MBA, and an Executive Master’s in Business Management. Clay currently is serving as a Presidential Appointee in the Obama Administration as Director of Protocol & Special Events at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

1998

BRIAN T. CHURCH recently started a new radio show on Supertalk 99.7 FM, WTN, from 10-11 a.m. central time in Nashville, Tennessee. On the show he takes calls and discusses entrepreneurship and small business strategies.

YANCEY WASHINGTON ran unopposed for clerk of superior court in the general election in Granville County, North Carolina, after overcoming two opponents in the Democratic primary.

2000

NATHAN “NATE” DaPORE, founder and president of PeopleMatter, was recently named Advantage Media Group 2014 Author of the Year.

F. SEAN SOMOANO is the owner of Buddy Bites, an organic bakery and shop for dogs and cats, located in Seabrook, Texas. The company celebrated its three-year anniversary in December 2014.

ROBERT PARRISH TAYLOR III was recently named the new vice president of retail services at CBRE Memphis, a real estate services company.

2001

RAFAEL “RAFI” GUROIAN was recently named Apple Inc.’s Systems Engineer of the Year for 2014 for the United States, east of the Mississippi.

Aaron Parks ’96 recently pulled a man from a burning vehicle, saving his life. Encountering a wreck at 3 a.m. on the Powhite Parkway in Richmond October 26, 2014, Parks heard the man screaming from the rolled-over vehicle as fire spread into the cab. Parks grabbed a hammer from his trunk, smashed the sunroof, and pulled the man to safety with help from his friend Mike Olsen. The man was covered in oil and badly hurt. Parks estimated that there was no more than 15 seconds to spare before the flames would have overcome the man. Within a minute or two, a small explosion further engulfed the vehicle. “I am no hero,” he said. Nevertheless, Parks epitomizes the good man and good citizen that the College aspires to form.
Steve Louro ’14, sitting front and center, held a graduation party with friends from Hampden-Sydney at his home on Long Island in New York. Many played on the lacrosse team or lived with Steve in his senior year.

2003
HUNTER TAZEWELL LUCAS OVERSTREET became the student services coordinator for Central Virginia Community College on July 25, 2014.

2006
CHRISTOPHER S. THOMPSON recently stepped down from his position as branch manager at Halifax County-South Boston Public Library System to accept a job at Blackwater Regional Libraries in the Tidewater region.

2007
ANDREW DANIEL BAKER was one of 15 Richmond-area school teachers awarded an R.E.B. Award for excellence in the classroom. With his $12,000 grant, he will travel from the Strait of Gibraltar through the Mediterranean to the Bosphorus, stopping at various locations to learn history and culture.

2008
C. MARK SAUNDERS III is the logistics manager for Atlantic Central America, Caribbean and Mexico Gulf with CMA-CGM international shipping corporation. CASEY MORRIS ARIAEL recently passed the Virginia Bar and has joined the law firm of Reid Goodwin, located in Richmond, as an associate.
ROBERT OERTEL CHAMBERS recently accepted a position at Indaco Risk Advisors as a personal lines account manager.

2010
MARIO WASHINGTON recently graduated from Marine Corps boot camp on Parris Island. He then went to North Carolina for combat engineer training. BEN BRAWLEY was...

Martin “Marty” Fentress, Jr., ’00 (above, center) moved to Stuttgart, Germany, in December 2013 to execute orders as a strategic analyst at United States Africa Command.

John “Johnny” Jefferson ’11 was spotted by L.L. Bean representatives and recruited to appear in their catalogue.

2011
SAMUEL SCHUETTE TURNER joined RiverFront Investment Group as a trader and portfolio administrator in Richmond. WILLIAM MCALACHLIN WISEMAN was recently sworn in...
For six generations the Suter family has been handcrafting some of the finest furniture in Virginia. Today Owen Suter III ’81 carries on the family tradition, working with his artisans to create the 18th-century reproductions in Richmond. It’s not just wood and metal they’re putting together, but as he said, “We’re making tomorrow’s heirlooms, today.” After taking a look at the company’s work, it’s clear that the finely hewn pieces, often intricately inlaid and built using original techniques and styles, will serve generations of Virginia families for years to come.

Suter grew up in the furniture business, his father being instrumental in his early experiences with the craft. “I can remember taking a truck from Richmond up to Harrisonburg, to the manufacturing factory, and I would walk around to take it all in. I started working there in the summers and quickly picked up on what the craftsman were doing. I just watched, learned, and figured it all out through osmosis.”

After his father passed, Suter’s mother sold her interest in Suter’s Furniture to his uncle in the mid-1980s. From there he started his own business out of Richmond, and since 1986 he has been working under the name synonymous with quality woodworking, carving out his own niche under Owen Suter’s Furniture. He’s always known cabinetmaking, he says, but building the company to its current prominence required much more than just a name.

He credits his friend and business mentor, Paul Byron, with helping him get the company off the ground. “He never said he was too
busy for me. He was a really good person who helped me a lot, especially when getting started. When you’re young, you think you’re invincible, but somebody who has some experience and has set up manufacturing companies all over the world—he has a wisdom that you just can’t go out and buy.”

Suter now oversees the handcrafted work from start to finish. “We take it from the raw lumber, mill it out, and put a finish on it. We retail a line of bedroom pieces, dining room furniture, occasional pieces, and a reproduction line for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. I have to say though that my favorite projects are the custom pieces—everything from whole kitchens to custom mantels. We do installation as well. We handle it from beginning to end.”

It’s a comprehensive trade that requires highly skilled craftsmen with many years of experience. Finding those craftsmen has been the primary challenge that Suter has had to overcome.

“Quality craftsmen are hard to find today. I’m lucky to have a crew that has largely been with me from the start or has worked with me for years.”

Most recently, some of Suter’s 18th-century pieces have found a proper place in Colonial Williamsburg. Chris Ellis ’85, the director of sales for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, called Suter in May 2014 to offer him the chance to build replica furniture for the living-history town. They started by making five pieces, with the prospect of more over time. One piece in particular struck a personal chord with Suter.

“The most exciting was our decision to make a replica of Patrick Henry’s corner chair. We had to meticulously measure, tweak, and rebuild it, but we were able to get the copy to look identical to the original. It wasn’t an easy project, but it was definitely one of my proudest accomplishments,” said Suter.

“There’s just a lot of history with the chair. It belonged to Patrick Henry, a famous Virginian who was on the Hampden-Sydney board of trustees. It hit home with me and my alma mater.”

Suter will donate the first produced corner chair to Hampden-Sydney to honor William “Bill” Hardy ’80, who was featured in the July 2014 issue of The Record. Hardy, recently diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease, was also honored with a scholarship fund that his friends and colleagues raised.

Although he finds working with Williamsburg and Hampden-Sydney rewarding, Suter gains most of his satisfaction by interacting with his day-to-day people and reflecting on the final products he and his craftsman create.

“I enjoy the people we work with. Many of our customers become our friends. When you start with raw lumber and are able to create heirlooms that families will have for generations, I sometimes have to sit back and think, ‘Wow, we just built that.’”

For aspiring businessmen, Suter suggests that they think long and hard about what they want to do. “If you do decide to start your own business, it’s going to take a lot of your time and effort, your life really, just to make sure the business is successful. A lot of people don’t think about the time that is involved and all the things you have to sacrifice to succeed. That’s what I’d tell younger people: Make sure you’re committed and passionate about what you do.”

And committed he is. Suter has dedicated his adult life to this business, much like the five generations before him, and both Williamsburg and his alma mater are fortunate to sample some of his accomplishments.

“It’s worth it. I’m pleased with where we are and where we continue to grow. It’s been a long haul, but at the end of the day it’s something I am extremely proud of.”
as an attorney by his grandfather, Judge Robert Collier. William is the fourth generation of lawyers in his family to practice in Iredell County, North Carolina.

S. GRAY GILCHRIST has joined the Richmond office of Colliers International as an industrial sales and leasing associate.

2012

NAY MIN OO was recently hired as an editor for Crossroads Magazine in his home country of Myanmar.

EDWARD “SCOOTER”

THOMAS is serving on a six-month tour in Bahrain as a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

2013

BECKHAM ALLEN “BECK” STANLEY was recently elected to a two-year town councilor seat in Bedford. He is the youngest councilor in town’s history.

EVAN CUMALANDER joined IronGate Partners this summer after gaining experience in wealth management at Edward Jones. He is an associate wealth advisor.

2014

ROBERT “BOBBY” FULTON recently graduated from Army Basic Training (BCT), Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Benning, Georgia, and Airborne School. He finished first in his BCT class for physical training (PT).

At the wedding of Wythe C. Hogge ’05 and Casey M. Geyer on September 13, 2014.

At the wedding of Zachary Streeter ’07 and Kaitlyn Wash on September 20, 2014.
**Advanced Studies**

**2005**

Lieutenant JORDAN H. GAUL, United States Navy, earned his Master of Arts in National Security Studies from Georgetown University.

**2013**

TANNER BROWN KNOX is pursuing his MBA at The Citadel Graduate College in Charleston, South Carolina.

**Weddings**

**2005**

WYTHE C. HOGGE and CASEY MICHELLE GEYER of Hamilton were married on September 13, 2014, at St. Francis de Sales Church in Purcellville. In attendance were Chase Kurtz ’04, Kenneth Strickler ’05, Matt Ferguson ’05, Justin Norbo ’06, Cory Rayfield ’05, Scott Russo ’05, Henry Sanders ’05, Trey Surber ’05, Zach Cambell ’09, and Tom Hogge ’03.

**2007**

ZACHARY STREETER and KAITLYN WASH were married on September 20, 2014. In attendance were Joshua Schniper ’07, Neal Eike ’07, Carden Hedelt ’07, Mark Ransone ’07, Ross Garrison ’07, Christopher Berry ’07, and Justin Parrish ’07. Zack is a quality engineer for i360 LLC, and Kaitlyn is an art therapist. They live in Alexandria.

**2008**

CASEY MORRIS ARIAIL and MEGAN NICOLE CORKER were married on October 3, 2014, at Main Street Station in Richmond. The bride graduated from James Madison University and teaches at Douglas S. Freeman High School. The groom is an attorney for Reid Goodwin in Richmond. In attendance were fellow graduates John Pendleton ’09, Rodes Boyd ’08, Brandon Ferrell ’09, Matthew Conrad ’09, Michael Corswandt ’06, Holden Bryant ’09, Tyler Keefer ’08, Bryan Melhorn ’08, Price Gutshall ’08, Vincent Mascielli ’08, William Guza ’06, and William Carpenter ’09.

**2011**

JORDAN TYLER WATKINS and JILLIAN JAFFA were married on July 12, 2014, at Our Lady of Grace Parrish in Parkton, Maryland. Jordan is a software engineer and Jillian is a math teacher at Hereford High School in Parkton.

**2013**

BENJAMIN WILLIS and SAMANTHA LISI were married on June 28, 2014, in Suffolk. Ben is a student at William and Mary School of Law, and Samantha is an elementary school teacher. They live in Williamsburg.

At the wedding of Casey M. Ariail ’08 and Megan N. Corker on October 3, 2014.

At the wedding of Benjamin Willis ’13 and Samantha Lisi on June 28, 2014.
Some men talk about following their dreams, and others clean out their bank accounts, sell their belongings, and build their own businesses from the ground up to make it happen. Alumnus Raphael Sydnor ’01 is the latter. He may not say it himself, but he has that rare courage needed to venture onto the thin ice of a self-made business future.

“And I thrive on that kind of stuff,” he said.

This past May, he and his wife sold items from their basement and invested their own money into their company B.O.A. Belts, or “Be Overly Aggressive,” making lifting belts and wrist straps for weightlifters. Sydnor uses 1/16” leather, rather than a thinner, double-ply leather or elastic material found in other belts and straps, seeking quality and durability rather than a cheaper product.

One of Syndor’s selling points is the customization of the belts. “I have a metal-worker who makes my brands; we fire them up and brand them into the leather. I have a leather craftsman who makes all our other gear.” He’s currently shifting the leather production itself to Virginia. Branded designs include tiger stripes and school logos, for example. He wants to fill a void in the market for high-quality, unique products for weightlifting, a sport that he has long enjoyed.

His time at Hampden-Sydney was split between athletics and scholarship. A power lifter since high school, Sydnor double-majored in English and Spanish. He was a Warren W. Hobbie business ethics scholar and a member of Phi Beta Kappa, but he was also on the rugby team for Raphael Sydnor ’01, powerlifting entrepreneur

“It is very scary when it’s your own money. We certainly didn’t think we’d need as much capital as we did. It’s kind of a nerve-racking, exciting adventure full of challenges …”

Raphael Sydnor
Entrepreneur

Raphael Sydnor ’01 demonstrates his products. The straps wrap only once, maintaining necessary tension.
all four years. He served as captain of the team and then as president. Even after school, however, he continued to weightlift, with the thought of running his own company in the back of his mind.

He married his high school sweetheart soon after graduation and then moved to New Jersey, where she could pursue her dream of dancing in New York City.

“She did that while I taught, and then it was my turn, so I did graduate school and we went to Rhode Island. I studied and got my master’s in education.” After settling near Woodbury Forest School in Madison County, Virginia, where Sydnor is a strength and conditioning instructor, he decided to fulfill his dream of running his own company.

“It is very scary when it’s your own money. We certainly didn’t think we’d need as much capital as we did. It’s kind of a nerve-racking, exciting adventure full of challenges with lots of speed bumps,” he said.

The College helped prepare him for his new enterprise, at least indirectly. He never took an economics class, but the people and the atmosphere on campus helped foster a confidence that he carried with him. “All my professors seemed interested in me. … I had support everywhere I went. They encouraged me to try new things, and I’m a firm believer in the whole liberal arts education. And I think that made all the difference.”

He has some advice for students who may want to build their own business:

“I think there’s a ton of reasons not to do it, and I think there’s very few reasons to do it. The worse thing you can do is put just a partial effort in and maybe, probably, it won’t work out. In anything in life, anything worth doing is worth doing 100%. If it doesn’t work, you know you did everything you could. Otherwise, you’ll look back and wonder what could have happened had you given it everything you had.”

It seems a solid education and a strong work ethic can produce results in just about any trade, even powerlifting.
Births

1995

To JAMES A. EVANS III and EMILY EVANS, a daughter, Hadley Elizabeth Evans, on February 13, 2014. They live near Tyler, Texas.

1996

To RYAN JAMES and ELAINE LAMB CUDNIK, a son, William James Cudnik, on October 28, 2014. They live in Nevada.

1998

To JAYSON and SARAH COLLIER, a son, Jackson Brody Collier, on June 24, 2014. They live in Charlottesville.

1999

To DAVID and KIM HOBBS, a son, John “Aidan” Hobbs, on June 15, 2014. Aidan joins twin sisters Anna and Addie, and brothers Allen and Andrew, in Birmingham, Alabama.

2001

To CORY and CHELSEA EVANS, a son, Caden Anderson Evans, on July 4, 2014. They live in Charlotte, North Carolina.

2002

To Dr. CHARLES DONALD and KATIE PARNELL ROBINSON, a daughter, Phoebe-Grey Crist “Fifi” Robinson, on June 3, 2014. She joins her sister, Elizabeth-Anne Donald “Bird” Robinson, in Mountain Brook, Alabama.

2003

To J. ANDREW and DILYN JACKSON, a daughter, Jordan Ella Jackson, on August 13, 2014. Andrew is an attorney in St. Augustine, Florida.


2004

To HUNTER and JOHANNA MORGAN, a boy, Mark Roderick Morgan, born September 5, 2014. They live near Atlanta.

2006


Deaths

1943

WILLIAM “BILL” MASON of Lexington, Kentucky, died January 28, 2014. He served as president of two coal companies and worked to build demand for U.S. coal internationally.

1945

THOMAS JULIAN FULCHER, JR., died on November 6, 2014. He served as a Marine radar operator in World War II in the Pacific. He later was the chairman of the board and sales manager of WFLO radio station in Farmville.

1947

GEORGE HARRISON LEARY of Virginia Beach died on October 23, 2014. He was a veteran of the United States Navy Reserve during World War II and later worked for Gulf Oil Trading Company.

ROBERT B. WEBB, JR., of Fairfax and Williamsburg died on September 12, 2014. He earned his medical degree from the University of Virginia Medical School in 1952, later serving as a regimental surgeon.
with the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. He also worked on the Navajo reservation in Arizona, providing eye care to the Navajo.

1948

THOMAS P. OVERTON died on October 17, 2014. He served as a naval officer in World War II, attended Hampden-Sydney, and graduated from the Medical College of Virginia in 1952. Outside of his family and practice, he enjoyed travel, golf, hunting, and fishing.

CARLTON WILSON “WILLIE” RIVES of McKenney and Hopewell died on August 31, 2014. He was a World War II veteran. He earned a master of commerce degree from the University of Richmond and most recently retired as director of Personnel Services of Southside Regional Medical Center. He was briefly mayor of McKenney.

1949

IRVIN B. “PETE” BALDWIN of Richmond died on November 10, 2014. He graduated from Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest in 1956. He was a minister, a business owner, a pilot, a fixed-base operator, and a builder.

1950

Dr. JOHN B. CLEMENTS died on November 5, 2014. He earned a Ph.D. in chemistry at UVA in 1955, eventually working for the Environmental Protection Agency until his retirement.

JOHN E. WHITE III of Chesapeake died on October 4, 2014. He was president of White/Stewart, going to Norfolk in 1950 to join the wood, coal, and oil business his grandfather had started in 1898.

1952

WILLARD MALLORY EDWARDS, JR., of Saint Johns, Florida, died on September 27, 2014. He worked for the Federal Government as an auditor and accountant for more than 35 years, spending much of his time in the Norfolk and Washington, D.C., areas before moving to Jacksonville.

1955

HOWLETTE B. “SONNY” MARTIN, JR., died on October 12, 2014. Martin retired as vice president of bank marketing for Integon Corporation of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

1958

Dr. PETER ROSANELLI, JR., died November 8, 2014. He was a 1965 graduate of the Medical College of Virginia, working as an OB/GYN. He served two years in the United States Air Force as a captain.

1963

LEAVENWORTH McGILL “WORTIE” FERRELL of Richmond died on December 14, 2013. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a senior vice president at Davenport & Company, serving on the board of directors.

Dr. HOLMAN C. “SKIP” RAWLS of Virginia Beach died on October 9, 2014. At Hampden-Sydney he was a member of the Inter-fraternity Council and the Kappa Sigma fraternity. He attended the Medical College of Virginia’s School of Dentistry, graduating in 1967 third in his class. He served in the United States Navy Dental Corps, touring in the Mediterranean. Skip was later noted for excelling in difficult dental trauma and reconstruction cases. He played golf, sculpted, raised bees, travelled, hunted, read nonfiction, and listening to classical music.

1964

JOHN SIDNEY DAVENPORT IV of Richmond died September 4, 2014. He went to St. Christopher’s School. While at H-SC he was a member of Kappa Sigma. He worked for First Mortgage, later becoming an executive vice president and director of Ryland Mortgage and a director of Dynex Capital. He enjoyed golfing, sinking five holes-in-one during his life.

1986

ERIK JOHN OLFSON of Galesville, Maryland, died October 1, 2014. He was the regional vice president of ThyssenKrupp Elevator company. He was an avid sailor and former Severn School football and lacrosse standout. He played both of those sports at Hampden-Sydney and was member of Kappa Sigma.

RICHARD W. “RICK” BRAMHALL, JR., died on September 6, 2014. He served in the Marine Corps during the Grenada conflict and was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal. Rick worked for the Pennsylvania State Police and was a fire marshal. He was active with the American Legion, the Marine Corps League, and Ducks Unlimited.

1995

ANDREW K. RACCA of Chevy Chase, Maryland, died on September 30, 2014.

2016

W. CALEB WHARTON of Richmond died on November 2, 2014. He was a junior at Hampden-Sydney and a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He was known as a loyal friend and a kind-hearted young man. A Redskins fan, he also played a number of sports and was an avid outdoorsman.

2017

RICHARD LEE “RICHIE” BURGER, JR., of Glen Allen, a sophomore at Hampden-Sydney, died on November 25, 2014. He was a recipient of the College’s President’s Scholarship. He was also a 2013 graduate of Deep Run High School, where he was a four-year member of the Air Force JROTC, and he attended Mt. Vernon Baptist Church.
Members of the Union-Philanthropic Literary Society (UPLS) regularly meet in Winston Hall’s Patrick Henry Room, where three chairs used since the 19th century continue to serve the students of oratory, debate, and argument. The American Empire-style centerpiece chair, on which the society’s president sits atop the club’s much-older dais, was recently restored by Perry’s Pianos out of Concord, just west of Appomattox.

It may seem strange that a company specializing in pianos would restore a chair, but Perry and his craftsmen have mastered a skill particularly conducive to enhancing 19th-century wood. The French polish method, popularized during the Victorian era, employs secretions harvested from the Indian scale insect *Kerria lacca*. The thick, crimson discharge yielded from this beetle-like bug is purified through heat-treating or liquid extraction, producing a hard, flaky resin known as shellac. The flaky shellac is then dissolved in ethanol, and then applied to wood surfaces with an oil-coated, cotton rubbing-pad. Thin layers are repeatedly applied by hand—a lengthy process that can take weeks or months to complete. The result is a shine that “flows deep into the wood pores and finishes smooth at the level of the wood. ... This allows the wood grain to move in the light, show color variations, depth, character, and resilient glowing,” as Perry describes.

Indeed, the deep, robust shine is apparent, especially in the smooth, top portion of the inside back. The company also replaced the upholstery on the arms, back, and seat with a white fabric closely matching the original design. The final product is a complete restoration that will remain a fitting piece in UPLS debates for many years.
Annuity rates and tax deductions are somewhat lower when two annuitants are designated.

Our Tiger annuity plans can help you get the most out of your investments.

Put your cash or appreciated securities to work in a charitable gift annuity with Hampden-Sydney College. These irrevocable contributions pay a fixed annuity for life that’s guaranteed, no matter how the market fluctuates—and they also generate valuable tax savings.

To show you how this program can benefit you, here are some selected annuity rates:

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Reunion Weekend
June 5-7, 2015
Get ready for a full weekend of family-friendly fun with classmates and professors on The Hill. You can even plan to stay in the dorms. Save the date and look for more information in your mailbox and online at alumni.hsc.edu.